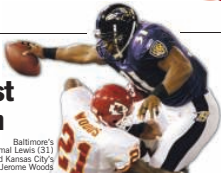


AND

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Baltimore's
Jamal Lewis (31)
and Kansas City's
Jerome Woods



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平成22年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可 (日刊朝し) 1月23日及び12月26日発行
発行所 日本郵政株式会社 〒106-0032 東京都港区日本橋2-2-1
印刷所 日本郵政株式会社 〒106-0032 東京都港区日本橋2-2-1

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Former administrator criticizes U.S. levels after Baghdad fell

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St. Louis Cardinals' Woody Williams pitches in the fifth inning against the Los Angeles Dodgers in game one of the National League Division Series on Tuesday in St. Louis. The Cardinals won 8-3.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Range of Iran's missiles: Iran said Tuesday its missiles now have a range of more than 1,200 miles, a substantial extension of their previously declared range.

The old version of Iran's Shahab-3 missile had a range of 810 miles, capable of reaching Israel and various U.S. military bases in the Middle East.

Fugitive war crimes suspects: The newly appointed Bosnian Serb interior minister announced Tuesday he had formed a special police unit to hunt down all fugitive war crimes suspects.

He did not reveal any details about the unit but said it was "looking for all persons indicted for war crimes."

EU consideration of Turkey: The European Union's executive commission is expected to recommend on Wednesday that Turkey begin entry talks for membership in the bloc, but with stringent and long-term conditions attached.

A draft report on the issue says that while Turkey has made progress, "deficiencies remain and it is clear that political reform needs to be further consolidated and broadened." The study, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, urged that Turkey be given the goal of joining the EU so reforms there can force ahead.

Croatia/Slovenia border dispute: The European Union's top foreign policy official on Tuesday urged Croatia and its former Yugoslav federation partner Slovenia to settle a border dispute in "the European spirit of dialogue."

The EU envoy, Javier Solana, also offered the services of the bloc and his own personally to help resolve the simmering conflict between the two otherwise friendly nations.

Afghanistan election violence: Afghan soldiers and police raided a hideout where Taliban militants were suspected of preparing attacks to disrupt this weekend's presidential elections, prompting a three-hour battle that left seven insurgents dead, officials said Tuesday.

Seven police officers were also reported killed when their patrol car struck a mine close to the Pakistani border, and police said gunmen shot at a U.N. vehicle, injuring three Afghan election workers.

States

Great white shark in Mass.: The 15-foot



Released hostages: Simona Pari, Simona Torretta and their relatives pose with Pope John Paul II on Tuesday at the Vatican. The pontiff, who has called for the release of all kidnapping victims in Iraq, met Tuesday with the two Italian aid workers freed a week ago by their abductors in Baghdad. The two women were held for three weeks after being seized at gunpoint from their humanitarian organization in Baghdad. They were released amid reports that a \$1 million ransom was paid. They asked to visit the pope to thank him for his appeal.

great white shark that patrolled a Cape Cod lagoon for nearly two weeks finally left for open waters Monday.

The 1,700-pound female shark swam through the inlet and into open ocean early Monday afternoon. The state's Division of Marine Fisheries had tried for days to coax the shark out of the lagoon, stringing a series of nets and electronic repellent devices in the water.

Blake case: The presence of a book author at the search of Robert Blake's home violated the actor's privacy rights and constitutional protection against unreasonable search and seizure, his attorney argued in a motion to throw out all evidence seized in the search.

Attorney M. Gerald Schwartzbach said the decision of homicide detectives to allow author Miles Corwin to go along on the search of Blake's San Fernando Valley home was a clear violation of law and requires suppression of all evidence obtained during the May 5, 2001, search.

Jackson case: Michael Jackson's lawyers filed a motion Monday to remove the Santa Barbara County district attorney's office from his child molestation case, but the reasons were kept secret.

The motion was one of several filed under seal by attorney Robert Sanger. Sanger said

sealing the motion was necessary because "the content of the motion includes reference to details in under-seal material including discovery materials, grand jury transcripts, investigative reports, exhibits and identities of witnesses."

Aryan Nations leadership: The neo-Nazi Aryan Nations has apparently moved its headquarters to Alabama.

After the Sept. 8 death of founder Richard Butler, the group's post office box was moved from Hayden to a post office box in Lincoln, Ala., according to the group's Web site. A four-member "leadership council" will be named to succeed Butler, a plan worked out at last summer's Aryan World Congress in northern Idaho, said Laslo Patterson, of Talladega, Ala.

Fla. right-to-die cases: Gov. Jeb Bush will ask the Florida Supreme Court to reconsider its 7-0 ruling against a law designed to keep a brain-damaged woman alive, a spokesman said Monday.

Florida's high court ruled two weeks ago that Bush and state lawmakers overstepped their authority with the year-old law ordering that Terri Schiavo's feeding tube be reinserted six days after her husband had it removed so she could die.

Stories and photo from wire services

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Courtesy of the U.S. Army

South Korean defense officials were to visit the Army's 3rd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Brigade on Thursday at its Camp Humphreys headquarters in Pyongtaek, South Korea, for an in-depth look at the AH-64 Apache Longbow's high-tech battle capabilities.

Seoul officials to get look at new Apaches

BY FRANKLIN FISHER
Stars and Stripes

PYONGTAEK, South Korea — High-level South Korean defense officials are to visit the U.S. Army helicopter base at Camp Humphreys Thursday for a close-up look at the battle capabilities of the Army's most modern attack helicopter, the AH-64 Apache Longbow.

Officials at the 6th Cavalry Brigade said they hope Thursday's visit will reassure the Koreans that the Longbow's high-tech capabilities help offset the departures this year of some U.S. combat forces.

Ahn Kwang-ghan, South Korea's deputy minister for policy with the Ministry of National Defense, is scheduled to visit the 6th Cavalry Brigade at Camp Humphreys and fly in a Longbow during a mock combat mission.

Three high-level South Korean military officials also will take part in the visit.

"Basically it's just to demonstrate the enhanced capabilities of the Longbow Apache versus the A-model Apache," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jeff Johnson, brigade master gunner with the 6th Cavalry Brigade.

In February, the 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry Brigade departed South Korea for the United States to convert the A-model Apaches into Longbows.

"The unit has left the peninsula for their upgrade program," said Maj. Kathleen Johnson, an 8th U.S. Army spokeswoman in Seoul.

Some 3,600 troops of the 2nd Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team left South Korea in August and currently are in Iraq.

"They need an accurate picture of the transition that is going on, on the peninsula right now, what the difference in capability means," Maj. William Coker, a 6th Cavalry Brigade spokesman, said of the visiting officials. "What is an Alpha compared to a Delta? What are our capabilities comparatively speaking?"

The Longbow's digital cockpit and other high-tech electronics gear enable it to sense the presence of enemy ground targets, pinpoint their locations, gauge what types of targets they are and then compute the best method for attacking them.

It also is able to transmit information instantly to other Longbows over a digital computer network. That avoids delays and possible mix-ups from trying to pass that information by voice radio, Johnson said.

"It just comes up on my helicopter, not a lot of human error ... just straight digital information," Johnson said.

The four Korean officials will stop first at the brigade's headquarters building for a formal briefing on the unit's mission. They'll next go to the flight line and visit the 3rd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Brigade. There, they'll be given a flight helmet and related gear, view a parked Longbow, then climb into a flight simulator.

E-mail Franklin Fisher at: fisher@pstripes.osd.mil

Seminar for one? Ombudsman is only attendee at Yokosuka family violence event

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Filers and notes were stuffed into grocery bags and placed on counters at Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts. An e-mail was sent to all the commands, and there was an appearance on Yokosuka Reports, the base news report, in which Cynthia Byas-Turner thought afterward she might have seemed too cheerful when she talked about family violence.

"They had space for 40, an urn of coffee and a big box of cookies. But just one person showed up Tuesday for Byas-Turner's event, a movie and discussion about domestic violence and abuse."

"I don't know ... Is it the rain? Or apathy?" said Byas-Turner, a family advocacy educator who works for the Fleet and Family Support Center and had devised the event as part of an effort to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Byas-Turner and colleague Susan Elizabeth Moore Pruitt, a counselor at the support center, had planned to show "This Boy's Life," the 1993 movie starring Robert De Niro, Ellen Barkin and Leonardo DiCaprio, based on the writer Tobias Wolff's coming-of-age memoir.

The story is about how DiCaprio's teenage character manages to outwit fate and his abusive stepfather, played by De Niro, to escape to prep school and a more assured future. The film also shows how De Niro's character terrorizes not only his stepson, but also his own children and his new wife, played by Barkin, making everyone, including himself, miserable.

"It's an excellent film," Pruitt said. "It demonstrates every aspect of domestic violence."

Byas-Turner agreed, choosing it over "The Burning Bed," with Farrah Fawcett, in which the abusive husband is dead, and "What's Love Got to Do with It," the Ike and Tina Turner story, in which Tina triumphs over Ike's abuse,

finds her biggest fame as a solo act and finds peace in Buddhism. Ike just sort of fades away.

Byas-Turner said she'd hoped for a broad mix of attendees. "I had no demographic in mind," she said. "It was hoping if a family advocacy rep couldn't be here, he'd send someone else. And anyone on an interest, who wanted to be educated."

After the movie, she was hoping for a fruitful discussion of the film, guided by a list of 12 questions. The first was "How did this movie make you feel?"

But only Graciela Meave, ombudsman for Carrier Strike Group 5, was there in the rec room of Jyubun Tower apartments at 1 p.m. for the event.

"This is very important for an ombudsman," Meave said. "Especially in this community. The ships are gone for a long time, and then they come back, and to get back to a family life — it's not easy."

Meave had learned of the presentation from her husband, Carrier Strike Group 5's legal chief and family advocate, and had attended in his place because he was busy with other briefings and meetings. Chief Petty Officer Fernando Meave also is tasked with being the command family advocacy representative, or FAR, which is why he got the e-mail. The FAR in each command is the liaison between the command and the base's family advocacy counselors in the event of family violence or abuse.

He'd asked his wife to attend, he said, because he couldn't. "It's an important topic," he said.

Byas-Turner said she hopes some people turn out for her next presentation on domestic violence. It's called "Speaking Up: Ending Domestic Violence in Our Communities," and it's scheduled for 11 a.m. Oct. 19 at Jyubun Tower.

This time, instead of cookies, Byas-Turner was planning to provide lunch. "I was going to order pizza," she said.

E-mail Nancy Montgomery at: montgomery@pstripes.osd.mil

Tricare offering tips on filing insurance claims

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP POSTER, Okinawa — To ensure beneficiaries are getting all they're entitled to, Tricare is spreading the word about the proper way to file a claim when treatment is received outside the military medical system.

The first step to receiving any care outside a military treatment facility for Tricare patients is getting a referral from the primary care manager, according to Arlita McClintock, former Tricare marketing representative.

If care is received without a referral, the Tricare point-of-service option will apply, meaning it will cost the patient.

The rules apply mostly to nonemergency care; Tricare generally will cover emergency care with or without a referral.

Only those enrolled in Tricare Prime — Tricare Extra and Standard patients aren't covered — are able to seek non-emergency services without referrals under the POS option, according to Brandie Morse, Tricare enrollment specialist at U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa. She said there is an annual deductible of \$300 for an individual and \$600 for a family under the POS option.

Once the deductible is met, the patient's cost will be 50 percent of the Tricare allowable charge plus any additional charges from non-network providers.

McClintock said that once a referral is obtained, patients should visit their military facility's health benefits adviser to receive all the required documents: DD Form 2161, Referral for Civilian Medical

Care; 2642, Tricare Claims Form; and as needed, 2527, Statement of Personal Injury.

Once care is received, the health benefits adviser can help the beneficiary file the claim and can explain the entire process from start to finish, Morse said.

If the adviser receives the bill or receipt, he or she will file the claim for the patient to Wisconsin Physician Services, the subcontractor that files all claims for Tricare's Western Pacific Region. If the patient receives the paperwork, he or she can take it to the adviser, who will help file the claim.

Morse said that if a patient is referred to an approved Tricare doctor, the doctor's office usually will file the claim for him or her, unless the office specifies that it can't.

If care is received without a referral, Mc-

Clintock said, the patient must file the claim, which must include DD Form 2642 and an itemized bill with the patient's name, hospital name, address, phone number, date of service and description of each service.

Once the process is complete, McClintock said, Tricare will mail the beneficiary an explanation of benefits and/or a check for reimbursement.

She said if the beneficiary wants to be paid in U.S. currency, he or she must note that on the claim before it's filed; otherwise, the reimbursement will be paid in local currency.

For more information on filing a claim, visit your local Tricare service center or your medical facility's health benefits adviser.

E-mail Fred Zimmerman at: zimmermanf@pstripes.osd.mil

Number of applications to military academies down

By SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Maybe it's the near-daily grim reports of U.S. troops dying in Iraq, or maybe today's high school students aren't feeling the patriotism that flooded the U.S. military service academies with recruits three years ago. Whatever the reason, the academies have seen a dip in the number of applications for the coming school year, officials said.

The U.S. Naval Academy has noted a 20 percent drop in applicants compared with this time last year, and the Army's West Point recorded a drop of 8.7 percent, officials said.

The Air Force Academy, which as of Tuesday has received 6,823 applications for the Class of 2009, is down from the 7,652 applications it received at this time last year.

Yet officials aren't concerned by the slump, said representatives from the three schools.

Students applying for the Class of 2009 were eighth- or ninth-graders when terrorists attacked the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, and they might not feel the urgency to join the military that high school seniors did three years ago, said Maj. Dale Smith, admissions officer for the U.S. Military Academy, better known as West Point.

"The perspective of eighth-graders is far different from high school seniors. [The younger] group was impacted differently, and that might account for some of the decline."

"And the war in Iraq is front-page news every day, and it's a hard business," Smith said.

All three service academies are still receiving more applications than they did before the attacks.

"It's a decline from last year, but we still are well above pre-9/11 numbers, and that's the important thing," Smith said.

As of Thursday, West Point had received 9,306 applications, down from 9,100 this time last year, he said. Throughout the 1990s and up until the fall of 2001, the academy averaged between 7,500 and 8,000 applications a year. After the terrorist attacks, it averaged about 11,000, he said. "There's a patriotic fervor when something like that happens," he said of the "spike."

From the pool, admissions officials will pick about 1,100 cadets who have passed the rigorous application process that includes meeting academic and physical standards and supplying a nominating letter from the White House or a member of the U.S. Congress.

While West Point isn't worried about the drop in applications, the academy is not taking a lachrymose view, Smith said.

"We're very concerned and very focused on getting best pool of candidates we can get," he

Where to apply

■ **U.S. Air Force Academy**
Online: www.academyadmissions.com

Mail: Director of Admissions
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200
USAF Academy, CO 80940
Call: 1-800-443-9266 or DSN
312-333-2520

■ **U.S. Military Academy**
Online: www.usma.edu
Mail: Director of Admissions
606 Thayer Road
West Point, NY 10996
Call: 800-822-ARMY
(800-822-2769)

■ **U.S. Naval Academy**
Online: www.usna.edu/admissions
Mail: Candidate Guidance Officer

U.S. Naval Academy
117 Detatur Road
Annapolis, MD 21402-5018
Call: 410-293-4361

said. Efforts include an extensive recruiting campaign, with recruiters traveling the country to meet candidates and tapping their "field force" of about 1,100 people who are former students, parents of students, or "those who love West Point," who seek out candidates, Smith said. "Last year, we sent out 1.5 million pieces of mail to high students, and we'll do the same this year, if not a little more."

At the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., the drop in applications is the first dip since the attacks, but it's not a cause for concern, spokeswoman Judy Campbell said.

Retired Marine Col. David Vetter, the dean of admissions at the Naval Academy, reported in the Board of Visitors meeting Sept. 24 that applications for the Class of 2009 numbered 9,031, a decline from last year at the same of 11,273, Campbell said.

"He speculated that the situation in Iraq could be the reason for the decline in applications. It should be noted that the Class of '08 had the highest number of applications, 14,425, in the past 12 years," she said. "Historically, at the same point in time, the Class of '06 had approximately the same number of applications, 9,076. The final number of applications was 12,331."

The applications numbers have fluctuated recently for the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., with 9,552 applications for the Class of 2005, 16,508 for the Class of 2006, 10,780 for the Class of 2007 and 12,430 for the Class of 2008, spokesman John Van Winkle said.

With that many applicants, the academy isn't hurting to pull out about 1,000 of the best and brightest to make up the freshman class of the coming school year, Van Winkle said.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontz@stripes.osd.mil

Influx of wounded Iraq vets strains already-burdened VA

By JOSH WHITE

The Washington Post

Thousands of U.S. troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with physical injuries and mental health problems are encountering an overburdened benefits system, and officials and veterans' groups worry that the challenge could grow as the nation re-makes its war.

The disability benefits and health care systems that provide services for about 5 million American veterans have been overloaded for decades, with a current backlog of more than 300,000 claims. And as of Aug. 1, nearly 150,000 National Guard and reserve veterans became eligible for health care and benefits because they were mobilized to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. That number is rising.

President Bush's budget for 2005 calls for cutting the Department of Veterans Affairs staff that handles benefits claims, and some veterans report long waits for benefits and confusing claims decisions.

"I love the military; that was my life. But I don't believe they're taking care of me now," said Staff Sgt. Gene Westbrook, 35, of Lawton, Okla. Paralyzed in a mortar attack near Baghdad in April, he has received no disability benefits because his paperwork is missing. He is supporting his wife and three children on his regular military pay of \$2,800 a month as he awaits a ruling on whether he will receive \$6,500 a month from the VA for his disability.

Through the end of April, the most recent accounting the VA could provide, a total of 166,334 veterans of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan had separated from military service, and 26,633 — 16 percent — had filed benefits claims with the VA for service-connected disabilities. Less than two-thirds of those claims had been processed, leaving more than 7,750 recent veterans waiting.

Officials expect those numbers to increase as the fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan continues.

"I think we're doing OK now, but I am worried," VA Secretary Anthony Principi said in a recent interview. "It is something you have to be concerned about. We don't have a good handle on the extent to which the demand for care and benefits will be a year or five years from now."

What if injured or ill veterans are finding when they return from overseas is a complex set of government processes for reviewing whether they will receive financial help. They must navigate two of the largest U.S. government bureaucracies in the VA and the Pentagon, and multiple medical review boards assess the extent of their injuries.

"The system is already strained, and it's going to get strained even worse," said David Autry, a spokesman for Disabled American Veterans. "It's not a rosy picture at all, and they can't possibly hope to say they're going to provide timely benefits to the new folks if they can't provide timely care to the people already in the system."

For veterans, the VA's system for evaluating disability claims can be the most frustrating element. Through the end of August, the agency had about 330,000 cases waiting to get a "rating," or a percentage figure approved by an evaluation board that decides how much a disabled veteran will receive monthly from the VA.

The ratings system uses a complex guide to calculate, for example, how disabling it is to lose a foot or to be blinded in one eye.

Soldiers are rated from zero percent to 100 percent disabled, and compensation varies from nothing to thousands of dollars each month.

Board decisions can take months as they weigh the severity of injuries and make sure they were suffered while the veteran was in the service.

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U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Monday, 1,058 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 803 died as a result of hostile action and 255 died of nonhostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ Two U.S. soldiers were killed Sunday by small arms fire at a traffic control point near Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Sgt. Russell L. Collier, 48, Harrison, Ark.;

killed Sunday while manning a traffic control checkpoint in Taji, north of Baghdad; assigned to Arkansas National Guard, 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery Regiment, Russellville, Ark.

■ Army Sgt. Jack T. Hennessy, 21, Naperville, Ill.; killed Friday by small arms fire at a checkpoint in Baghdad; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

■ Army Sgt. Christopher Potts, 38, Tiverton, R.I.;

killed Sunday while manning a traffic control checkpoint in Taji, north of Baghdad; Rhode Island National Guard, Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion, 103rd Field Artillery, Providence, R.I.

■ Army Sgt. Michael A. Uvanni, 27, Rome, N.Y.;

killed Friday in Samarra, Iraq, by a sniper, assigned to the Army National Guard, 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment, Morrisville, N.Y.

From The Associated Press



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Too few troops in Iraq after Baghdad fell, Bremer says

White House refuses to say if request came from official to counter looting

By SCOTT LINDLAU

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House refused to say Tuesday whether the top U.S. civilian official in Iraq after Saddam Hussein's ouster had asked the president for more troops to deal with the rapid descent of postwar Iraq into chaos.

In remarks published Tuesday, the official, L. Paul Bremer, said he arrived in Iraq on May 6, 2003, to find "horrid" looting and a very unstable situation — throwing new fuel onto the presidential campaign issue of whether the United States had sufficiently planned for the postwar situation in Iraq.

"We paid a big price for not stopping it because it established an atmosphere of lawlessness," Bremer said during an address to an insurance group in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. The group released a summary of his remarks in Washington.

"We never had enough troops on the ground," Bremer said, while insisting that he was "more convinced than ever that regime change was the right thing to do."

White House spokesman Scott McClellan refused to say whether Bremer had pleaded with Bush for more troops. "We never get into reading out all the conversations they had," McClellan said.

Later, in an unusual public acknowledgment of internal dissent, the Bush campaign said that Bremer and the military brass had clashed on troop levels.

"Ambassador Bremer differed with the commanders in the field," said campaign spokesman Brian Jones. "That is his right, but the president has always said that he will listen to his commanders on the ground and give them the support they need for victory."

In a statement Monday night to The Washington Post, Bremer said he fully supported the Bush administration's strategy in Iraq.

"I believe that we currently have sufficient troop levels in Iraq," he said in the e-mailed statement, according to Tuesday's edition of the Post. He said references to troops levels related to the situation when he first arrived in Baghdad, "when I believed we needed either more coalition troops or Iraqi security forces to address the looting."

Bremer addressed the Insurance Leadership Forum, at The Greenbrier resort in West Virginia. Portions of the speech were made available Monday night through a press release from the Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers.

In an earlier speech Sept. 17 at



L. Paul Bremer

See related story on page 12

DePaul University, Bremer said he frequently raised the issue of too few troops within the Bush administration and "should have been even more insistent" when his advice was rejected. "The single most important change — the one thing that would have improved the situation — would have been having more troops in Iraq at the beginning and throughout" the occupation, Bremer said, according to the Banner-Graphic in Greencastle, Ind.

The final report by the American weapons inspector in Iraq — Charles Duelfer — will come out this week. In drafts, Duelfer found that Saddam did not have stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction, but left signs that he had idle programs he someday hoped to revive.

Even before the final report was issued, McClellan said it bolstered the White House's contentions on Iraq.

The report will assert "that Saddam Hussein had the intent and the capability, that he was pursuing an aggressive strategy to bring down the sanctions, the international sanctions imposed by the United Nations through illegal financing, procurement schemes," McClellan said. "That's something that's very revealing."

"The fact that he had the intent and capability" to build weapons of mass destruction, and that he was "trying to undermine the sanctions that were in place is very disturbing, and I think the report will continue to show that he was a gathering threat that needed to be taken seriously, that it was a matter of time before he was going to begin pursuing those weapons of mass destruction," McClellan said.

Rumsfeld: No evidence links Saddam, al-Qaida

BY RICHARD PYLE
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said in a speech that he knew of no clear link between the al-Qaida terror network and Saddam Hussein, although he later backed off the statement and said he was misunderstood.

Asked to describe the connection between the former Iraqi leader and the al-Qaida terror network at an appearance Monday at the Council on Foreign Relations, the Pentagon chief first refused to answer, then said: "To my knowl-

He later says his remarks were misunderstood

edge, I have not seen any strong, hard evidence that links the two."

Several hours after his appearance, Rumsfeld issued a statement from the Pentagon saying his comment "regrettably was misunderstood" by some. He said he has said since September 2002 that there were ties between Osama bin Laden's terror group and Iraq.

"This assessment was based on points provided to me by then-CIA Director George Tenet to describe the CIA's understand-

ing of the al-Qaida relationship," he said. This included "solid evidence of the presence in Iraq of al-Qaida members, including some that have been in Baghdad," he said.

In his New York remarks, Rumsfeld said he had seen intelligence on the Saddam-al-Qaida question "migrate in amazing ways" in the past year, adding that there were "many differences of opinion in the intelligence community." He did not elaborate on that but said relationships

among terrorists "evolve and change over time."

On whether Iraq had weapons of mass destruction before the war, Rumsfeld told the New York audience flatly that intelligence about such weapons before the invasion was flawed — a markedly different statement than what he told a television interviewer just a day earlier.

"It turns out that we have not found weapons of mass destruction," Rumsfeld said Monday in the speech. "Why the intelligence

proved wrong, I'm not in a position to say, but the world is a lot better off with Saddam Hussein in jail."

In an interview aired Sunday on the Fox News Channel, Rumsfeld had said he believed Saddam, the deposed Iraqi president, had weapons of mass destruction before the war, and the truth may unfold over months or years.

"I believe they were there, and I'm surprised we have not found them yet," Rumsfeld said in the interview. "He is either hidden them so well or moved them somewhere else, or decided to destroy them ... in event of a conflict but kept the capability of developing them rapidly."

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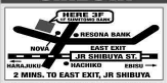
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1st ID soldier gets 11 months in AWOL case

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — An Israeli combat veteran serving in the 1st Infantry Division was sentenced Monday to 11 months in prison for smoking marijuana and for twice refusing to join his unit in Iraq because he felt it wasn't properly trained for combat, attorneys in the case said.

Pfc. Tomer Jochowitz, 25, of the Schweinfurt-based 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, pleaded guilty to two counts of desertion as well as one count each of leaving his duty post, missing a troop movement and use of marijuana. He was acquitted of failing to obey an order.

Former Israeli sniper refused to join unit in Iraq, believed troops were unprepared

In addition to the prison term, Judge (Lt. Col.) Robin Hall ordered him to forfeit all pay, reduced him to the lowest enlisted rank, and handed him a bad-conduct discharge, said the military prosecutor, Capt. Jonathan Larcum.

Jochowitz grew up in Israel with dual citizenship after his American-born Jewish parents emigrated in the 1970s, said his civilian attorney, David Court.

In the late 1990s, Court said, he served three years in the Israeli

Defense Forces as a sniper combating Palestinian insurgents in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon. After his tour ended, he moved to the United States and went from job to job until he enlisted in the Army as an infantryman May 2003.

Four months later, Jochowitz arrived in Schweinfurt to join the 1-26 Infantry, just as that unit was preparing for a one-year deployment to Iraq that would begin in February 2004.

But according to a court docu-

ment, Jochowitz quit his unit without permission Feb. 12 and traveled to the Netherlands, where he smoked marijuana. He returned five days later just as his unit was leaving for Iraq, but he failed a drug test. Given a second chance to deploy Feb. 23, he fled a second time and turned himself in the next day.

Court argued that Jochowitz believed his unit wasn't fully prepared for war, and that he had said so to his chain of command.

"He's not somebody who

doesn't understand military service," Court said. "He realized they weren't cognizant of what they were doing or getting into."

But, he added, Jochowitz later realized he'd been wrong to abandon his unit and pleaded guilty to most of the charges.

His fellow soldiers in the 1-26 Infantry have patrolled since early March in the troubled city of Samarra. Five of the battalion's troops died or were wounded. Two were injured in a car-bomb attack against the Iraqi National Guard headquarters there July 8. The unit also reportedly was a big part of a successful counter-insurgency assault in Samarra late last week.

E-mail Steve Liewer at: Liewers@mail.strips.esd.mil



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Man sues government for release of flag-draped coffin photographs

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A journalism professor sued the U.S. government Monday to force the Defense Department to release pictures of flag-draped coffins of soldiers arriving in the United States from wars overseas.

Ralph Begleiter, a professor at the University of Delaware and a former world affairs correspondent for CNN, filed suit under the Freedom of Information Act for the release of government photos and video of coffins arriving at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

The Pentagon has refused to release those photos, saying it has begun enforcing a policy installed in 1991 to respect the privacy of the families of the dead soldiers.

Critics counter the government is trying to hide the human cost of the war from the public.

"They're public records," Begleiter's attorney, Daniel Mach, said in a telephone interview. "This is about the public's right to know the implications of U.S. foreign policy and to assess the price of war."

Begleiter's lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, lists the Defense Department and the Air Force as defendants. A Pentagon spokeswoman declined comment on the lawsuit.

Last April, the Air Force released scores of photos taken at Dover in response to a FOIA request. The pictures included shots of some of the coffins of the astronauts who died last year on the space shuttle Columbia. The Pentagon later called that release a mistake.



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IN THE WORLD

Three Americans win Nobel Prize in physics

BY MATT MOORE

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Americans David J. Gross, H. David Politzer and Frank Wilczek won the 2004 Nobel Prize in physics on Tuesday for their explanation of the force that binds particles inside the atomic nucleus.

Their work has helped science get closer to "a theory for everything," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in awarding the physics prize.

It was a 1973 breakthrough by the trio — researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara, the California Institute of Technology and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, respectively — that explained how the so-called "strong force" works. The force keeps quarks, the building blocks of protons and neutrons, tightly bound to one another even though the positive electromagnetic charge of protons in the nucleus would break them apart. "I'm shocked, very surprised and honored," Gross said of winning the prize.

Reached by Swedish radio at his home in Massachusetts, Wilczek, 53, said he was surprised and gratified.

"Of course it is something I've been dreaming about for quite a while now," he said.

He said he would spend the day "sort of floating big feet above the ground."

The three physicists claim by their discovery through a brilliant and nonintuitive insight. They showed that unlike forces such as electromagnetism and gravity, which grow



Politzer

Wilczek

Gross

more powerful as two particles get closer to one another, the strong force actually gets weaker as two quarks converge. It is as if the particles were connected by a rubber band that pulls them together more tightly as it stretches. Wilczek and Politzer, 55, were still graduate students at the time of the discovery; Gross, now 63, was a young professor.

Their achievement cemented the theory of quantum chromodynamics, which describes the interactions of quarks and other subatomic particles inside the atomic nucleus. It also filled a critical remaining gap in what physicists refer to as the Standard Model, the theory that governs physics at the microscopic scale. It accounts for the behavior of three out of nature's four fundamental forces — electromagnetism, the strong force and the weak force, which governs radioactive decay.

The ultimate goal of physics would be to unify the Standard Model with Einstein's theory of general relativity, which describes how gravity works and predicts the existence of black holes, wormholes and other far-out phenomena. The work of Wilczek, Gross and Politzer brought science one step closer to that "grand dream," the Swedish academy noted.

Alfred Nobel, the wealthy Swedish industrialist and inventor of dynamite who endowed the prizes, left only vague guidelines for the selection committee.

In his will, he said the prize should be given to those who "shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind" and "shall have made the most important discovery or invention within the field of physics."

The academy, which also chooses the chemistry and economics winners, invited nominations from previous recipients and experts in the fields before cutting down its choices.

The winner of the Nobel Prize in chemistry will be named Wednesday and the literature prize will be announced Thursday. The Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel will be announced Oct. 11.

The winner of the coveted peace prize — the only one not awarded in Sweden — will be announced Friday in Oslo, Norway.

The prizes, which include a \$1.3 million check, a gold medal and a diploma, are presented on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896.

Aristide backers carry out promised beheadings in Haiti

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Machete-wielding supporters of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide are turning their wrath on Haiti's demoralized police force, beheading some of their victims in a campaign imitative of the insurgency in Iraq.

Seven of at least 18 people killed in the turmoil in Port-au-Prince have been police officers, judicial police chief Michael Lucius said Monday. He said an eighth officer remains hospitalized in serious condition with a gunshot wound to the head.

Three of the slain policemen were decapitated after being shot during clashes with pro-Aristide demonstrators last week.

Interim Prime Minister Gerard

Latorneur, who is leading a U.S.-backed transitional government installed after Aristide's ouster in February, has said the police killings were part of an offensive by pro-Aristide gangs dubbed "Operation Baghdad."

Deadly clashes continued Monday between street gangs in Cite Soleil, a Port-au-Prince shantytown teeming with Aristide supporters, whose police shot and killed two gang leaders last week.

"I don't know how many or who was killed, but people were killed," said Cite Soleil Mayor Cornelle Jean-Jorel, speaking by telephone from the seaside slum.

The violence in Port-au-Prince, in southern Haiti, has coincided with the chaotic aftermath of Tropical Storm Jeanne in the northwest.

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Powell confident Brazil won't build nukes

By STAN LEHMAN
The Associated Press

SAO PAULO, Brazil — U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, opening a two-day visit Tuesday, said he is confident Brazil has no intention of becoming a nuclear weapons power, but he called on Brazil to work out differences with the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency over inspections.

"Brazil is a nation of the U.S. values as a close partner in advancing prosperity, democracy and security in the hemisphere but around the globe," he said shortly after arriving in Brazil's biggest city.

"The U.S. welcomes Brazil's growing leadership in the Americas and on the world stage," he said.



Powell

the IAEA is seeking.

"The IAEA has worked out these kinds of

Powell arrived here on his first visit to Brazil as secretary of state less than two weeks ahead of a visit by a team of International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors to Brazil. The IAEA wants unimpeded access to a factory that produces nuclear fuel.

Brazil has indicated that it wants less stringent standards than

differences in the past. I expect they will work it out this time with Brazil," Powell told reporters said while en route Monday night.

"It's a question of how much visibility they get in certain technical aspects of their facilities but that's something to be worked out."

"I hope they find a solution," he said.

Powell praised the cooperative efforts Brazil is making internationally in a number of areas. He offered no hint of concern about Brazil's move to the left under President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva.

Silva has been seeking greater power and influence for Brazil on the world stage, but he is no longer using the harsh rhetoric of two years ago when he was a candidate for

the presidency.

Powell spoke kindly of Brazil Monday night, praising the "tremendous work" of Brazilian peacekeepers in Haiti who are trying to help bring stability to the country as it moves toward the election of a new president.

Powell also said Brazil was helpful in bringing about a peaceful outcome to political tensions in Venezuela.

Brazilian officials were expected to tell Powell of their interest in obtaining a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council. Powell was noncommittal on that subject during the flight here.

Powell plans a stop to hurricane-ravaged Grenada while en route home on Wednesday.

Toilet device helps bathroom bashful Japanese women

By AIKO HAYASHI
The Associated Press

TOKYO — When Naoko Ito uses a public bathroom, she cringes in embarrassment at the thought that other patrons can hear the sounds coming from her stall.

"That's when she turns to the 'Sound Princess.'"

Ito, like a rapidly growing number of Japanese women, presses a device installed in public toilets to simulate the sound of water flushing — and mask the cruder noises of nature.

"I usually use the flushing sound when I go to a public bathroom, such as at a department store, because I get a bit self-conscious," said Ito, a 60-year-old waitress.

The device — a curious mix of Japanese bashfulness and modern technology — is spreading rapidly through public buildings and has now become standard equipment for new construction.

Leading toilet product Toto Ltd. has sold 500,000 of their "Sound Princess" — "Oto-Hime" in Japanese — since 1980 and the company says orders surged 125 percent in 2003 alone.

"The core of our clientele is schools and companies," Toto spokeswoman Kumai Goto said. "Japanese women are very embarrassed by the sounds they make in a toilet."

There's another reason behind the increase in the gadgets: ecology. Women in Japan have traditionally flushed several times to cover up their noises, so the Sound Princess is saving water and cutting down on public buildings' utility bills.

The Sound Princess is fairly simple. The user



Toto Ltd. public relations staff Kuniko Kato puts her hand over the sensor of "Sound Princess," that makes the flushing sound to mask the cruder noises of nature at her office's ladies' toilet in Tokyo Friday.

presses her hand over a sensor, and the convincing sound of a torrent of water comes from a speaker.

Such gadgets might seem a dainty, modern excess of a shame-obsessed society, but the Sound Princess has deep roots in Japanese culture.

The Japanese are notoriously fastidious: the daily bath is practiced with near-religious fervor, and walking inside with your shoes on is considered filthy. The Japanese word for clean — "kirei" — also means beautiful.

"Most of the demands for the device come from public facility owners and managers including department stores and elementary and junior high schools," Goto said.

But for now, "Oto-Hime" seems to likely to remain for women only.

"I still haven't heard of men who say they want 'Oto-hime' in men's rooms," said Goto.

Is Tiger about to tie the knot?

By GREGORY BULL
The Associated Press

SANDY LAKE BEACH, Barbados — Tiger Woods went scuba diving Tuesday off a yacht reported to hold Swedish fiancée Elin Nordegren and guests while Barbados' ritziest resort prepared white-netted pagodas for a celebration on the lawn overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

The 28-year-old golfer reportedly is importing 500 red roses, but does not respond to rumors he will marry Tuesday afternoon.

Nordegren reportedly was aboard the yacht "Privacy" at anchor off the Sandy Lake Hotel and Golf Club, with guests reported to include Oprah Winfrey.

Nordegren's mother, Barbro Holmberg — who is Sweden's migration minister — is away from the country until Monday and her spokesman said he doesn't know where she is. Nordegren's sister Josefine — an identical twin — also could not be reached for comment.

The only helicopter charter company on the island said it was booked Tuesday amid reports that wedding organizers planned to take aerial shots of the ceremony — and prevent any journalists from overlying the event. The resort where Woods was staying also was booked out.

Woods went scuba diving early Tuesday, hours before what many say will be a sunset wedding.

An AP photographer saw Woods carrying scuba equipment onto a small boat tied to the yacht. The boat, with at least three other men aboard, had minor engine trouble before it took off with a smiling Woods stretching one arm into the sea. A shirtless Woods then took a turn at the wheel.

His 24-year-old fiancée was nowhere to be seen — consistent with the tradition of the bride being separated from her groom before the wedding.

The idyllic island has been bristling with rumors of an imminent wedding since the weekend news photographers and reporters attempting to sneak into the resort, which is guarded by Barbadian police officers and private security guards with a Barbados Coast Guard cutter offshore.

Sandy Lake employees were busily preparing for a celebration, setting up tables and chairs under white-netted pagodas on the lawn of the Green Monkey golf course clubhouse, where one source said Woods is scheduled to marry Nordegren later in the afternoon.

Associated Press writer Philip Spooner in Bridgetown contributed to this report

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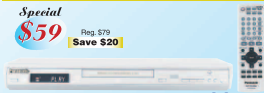
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IN THE STATES



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry is greeted Tuesday before speaking at a town hall meeting in Tipton, Iowa.

Kerry says Bush, Cheney should admit Iraq errors

BY MARY DALRYMPLE

The Associated Press

TIPTON, Iowa — John Kerry said Tuesday that Vice President Dick Cheney should acknowledge mistakes made in Iraq, pointing to remarks by the former head of the U.S. occupation that more troops had been needed in the aftermath of war.

"I hope tonight Mr. Cheney can acknowledge those mistakes," the Democratic presidential candidate said. "I hope Mr. Cheney can take responsibility."

Cheney faced Kerry's running mate, North Carolina Sen. John Edwards, in the vice presidential debate Tuesday night in Cleveland.

Kerry said there was a "long list of mistakes" that the Bush administration had made in Iraq. "I'm glad that Paul Bremer has finally admitted at least two of them, and the president of the United States needs to tell the truth to the American people," Kerry said.

The United States did not have enough troops in Iraq after ousting Saddam Hussein, failed to stop widespread looting and "paid a big price for not stopping it because it established an atmosphere of lawlessness," Bremer said Monday in an address to an insurance group in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Bremer returned to the United States after Iraqi leaders retook political control in June.

Bush-Cheney spokesman Brian Jones said in response to Kerry's remarks, "The president consistently said he will listen to the commanders on the ground for military advice. He did so at the beginning of the war, and he will continue to do so until

For coverage of the vice-presidential debate, see tomorrow's Stripes

the Iraqi people have achieved a free and democratic nation of their own. John Kerry's second-guessing of commanders on the ground and his constant attempts to undermine our effort in Iraq sends the wrong message to our troops, our allies and our enemies."

Kerry said voters should consider the fact that the president has admitted mistakes in Iraq as a reflection of his judgment.

The Massachusetts senator said the question was whether the president was "constitutionally incapable of acknowledging the truth" or "just so stubborn."

Kerry said he had proven his own judgment by choosing to serve in Vietnam and then raising questions about U.S. action there when he returned home. His war protests after he left the Navy have brought criticism from some veterans.

"When I saw the mistakes, I stood up when I came back, and I had the courage to point them out to the American people," Kerry said.

The campaign is looking into the possibility of using 30-minute TV time slots for promoting the candidate before the election, one Kerry official said, noting that in the primaries the Democrat held a 30-minute town hall that he financed. However, buying advertising time is more costly in the final weeks of the campaign.

After his appearance in Iowa, Kerry was heading to Colorado to begin preparing for Friday's second debate with Bush.

Analysts: Anti-terror plan will cost \$15 billion to implement

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House Republican bill to implement the Sept. 11 panel's recommendations could cost almost \$15 billion over five years, congressional budget officials said, as the Senate moved Tuesday to finish its version of the legislation.

The Congressional Budget Office — Congress's nonpartisan budget analysts — estimated that the House bill, which creates a national intelligence director as well as increases anti-terrorism, identity theft, illegal immigration and border security powers, could cost \$14.9 billion between 2005-2009.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said it would be worth it.

"What does it cost us to have a 9/11 event? What would it cost us to have another 9/11 event?" he asked Tuesday.

The speaker said he thinks "\$15 billion is a — and I don't

even know if that's correct — sound insurance policy to ensure that we protect the people in this country."

House leaders plan to have their bill up for a final vote later this week. The Senate moved Tuesday to also get a final vote on its bill before the end of the week.

Sensors, on an 85-10 vote, decided to limit debate and amendments on their legislation. That makes it more likely that the bill could be finished before the Senate's proposed adjournment date of Friday.

The Senate bill — which the CBO said would cost \$700 million before adding the cost of the amendments that senators have added in the last few days — does not contain the various additional powers in the House version.

If the two bills do not match after final passage, the House and Senate must come together in a negotiating committee to hammer out a version that can be sent to the White House for the president's signature.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, the chief GOP sponsor of the Senate bill, said Monday that she and chief Democratic sponsor Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., already are meeting with House Intelligence members to try and work out some of the issues.

"I hope that we can complete action this week," Collins said.

"If not, then I think we could complete action in October and come back later this month for a day to vote on the conference report."

Some Democrats say the job would be easier if the White House would help.

"The president can pick up the phone and tell Tom DeLay and Hastert and say, 'Look, I want the bill and quit fooling around and get this thing narrowed down,' and it's done," Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., told The Associated Press in an interview Monday.

"So, there's no mystery here," Dodd said. "It seems quite clear to me the administration is hostile to the idea."

Telemarketing fraud probe nabs 135

Schemes cost victims \$1B, U.S. prosecutors say

BY CURT ANDERSON

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An international investigation of telemarketing fraud schemes has resulted in the arrests of more than 135 people in cases involving more than 5 million victims, Attorney General John Ashcroft announced Tuesday.

The fraud cost victims an estimated \$1 billion and included such schemes as bogus lotteries, fake sweepstakes and credit cards, offers of nonexistent investments and tax fraud, prosecutors said.

Some cases involved so-called "recovery rooms" in which people posed as law enforcement officials offered to help victims recover losses for a fee.

Many of those victimized are elderly. One recent study by AARP of one lottery scheme showed that victims had an average age of 74.

"These cases show how ruthless criminal telemarketers can

be in victimizing members of the public, especially the most vulnerable segments of our society," Ashcroft said.

The initiative, dubbed "Operation Ransoming Charge," has resulted in the arrests of about 100 people in the United States and 35 in several other countries since it began in January. About 70 people have been convicted on fraud charges so far in the United States and Canada.

In addition to the criminal charges, the Federal Trade Commission has brought 27 civil complaints against deceptive or un-



Ashcroft

fair telemarketing practices. The

Commodity Futures Trading Commission and U.S. Postal Inspection Service also took civil actions against people accused of telemarketing fraud.

About 190 search warrants have been executed in the United States and Canada, and officials in U.S. states have also taken 279 criminal, civil and regulatory actions as part of the initiative.

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Pioneering astronaut Cooper dies at age 77

'Gordo' last to take flight during NASA's Mercury program

BY PAUL CHAVEZ
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES—Gordon Cooper was the last astronaut to take flight during NASA's pioneering Mercury program, but he achieved many key firsts as he piloted Faith 7 capsule in May of 1963.

As he circled the globe 22 times in 34 hours and 20 minutes, Cooper became the first astronaut in a space flight of more than 24 hours. He was also the first astronaut to sleep in space, and he successfully carried out a beacon experiment that made him the first man to launch a satellite in space.

Cooper, who was the youngest and perhaps cockiest member of the original seven Mercury astronauts, died Monday at his Ventura home of natural causes. He was 77.

Cooper, known as "Gordo" to his friends and colleagues, had been suffering from heart problems and showed symptoms of heart failure over the weekend, former Mercury astronaut Wally Schirra said.



Astronaut Gordon Cooper breaks into a broad grin at the greeting given to him aboard the USS Kearsarge on May 17, 1963, after orbiting Earth 22 times aboard his spacecraft, Faith 7.

"We were probably the most bonded seven men in the history of aviation and space and mankind, and to lose another one is pretty tough for us," Schirra told Associated Press Radio.

As one of the nation's first astronauts, Cooper became a hero to a generation of Americans in the

early 1960s as the country tried to catch the Soviet Union in the space race.

"He truly portrayed the right stuff, and he helped gain the backing and enthusiasm of the American public, so critical for the spirit of exploration," NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe said.

Cooper, who took a nap in the capsule while waiting for Faith 7 to launch, was the last astronaut to orbit Earth alone.

A serious glitch materialized in Faith 7's final orbits when a short-circuit left its automatic stabilization and control system without electric power. With carbon dioxide levels rising in both Cooper's suit and the cabin, he issued the classic understatement, "Things are beginning to stack up a little." He then radioed that he would pursue a manual re-entry.

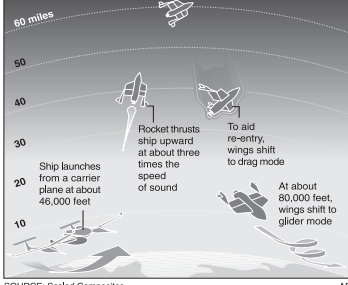
Follow Mercury program astronaut John Glenn, who was the first American to orbit the Earth, recalled that Cooper's onboard clock also was not working properly. Cooper relied on Glenn's voice for a manual countdown for the timing of firing rockets that would ensure landing in the right spot.

"He followed my count and hit the button on 'zero.' It worked; he got back," said Glenn, a former U.S. Senator.

Cooper is survived by his wife, Suzan, and their children.

Separation of space and state

The privately funded rocket SpaceShipOne won the \$10 million X Prize Monday when it made its second piloted space flight within five days. The prize was intended to promote nongovernmental, manned space travel.



Ansari X Prize competition to become an annual event

The Associated Press

MOJAVE, Calif. — Hoping to build on the momentum sparked by a private rocket plane's dash into space, supporters of opening the heavens to civilians are turning the winner-take-all race into an annual competition that might further fuel imaginations.

The privately owned SpaceShipOne won the \$10 million Ansari X Prize on Monday by blasting into space for the second time in five days, a feat considered the first stepping-stone in the direction of public spaceflight.

"In 10 years, everyone will know that if they want to, they can go to orbit in their life," SpaceShipOne designer Burt Rutan told NBC's "Today" show on Tuesday. "They will know that instead of just hope or dream."

The X Prize, offered to the first team to get into space twice in a 14-day span, will now evolve into a regular competition called the X Prize Cup. In May, organizers selected New Mexico to permanently host the X Prize Cup.

More than two-dozen teams worldwide began projects in hopes of winning the original X Prize, and prize founder Peter Diamandis said the purpose of the Cup competition is to keep such groups going with a "grand prize of space."

The first X Prize Cup will be held in 2005-06 at New Mexico's White Sands Missile Range, a vast military installation. It will then move to an area 30 miles north of Las Cruces, where a facility dubbed the Southwest Regional Spaceport will be built.

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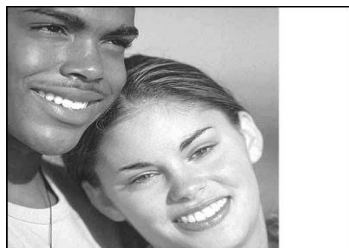
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- 1745 Marrow Foundation, The
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Poll: Image of Muslims poor in U.S.

BY CARLYLE MURPHY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — One in four Americans holds a negative stereotype of Muslims, and almost one-third respond with a negative image when they hear the word "Muslim," according to a new national poll commissioned by a Washington-based Islamic advocacy group.

Officials with the Council on American-Islamic Relations, which sponsored the survey, called the findings alarming. Although the organization was aware that hate crimes and discrimination against Muslims had increased since the 2001 terrorist attacks, "we did not know [anti-Islamic sentiment] was that deep," the council's executive director, Nihad Awad, said this week at a news conference.

He and other council officials urged that American Muslims increase their outreach and that U.S. officials speak out against anti-Islamic bias.

The violence in Iraq, including the beheadings of hostages by Muslim radicals, might be fueling the negative attitudes, Awad said.

The telephone poll of 1,000 Americans was conducted from June 23 to July 2 by Genesee Research Associates, a Southern California marketing firm.

When asked if they agreed with such statements as "Muslims teach hate and violence to their children" and "Muslims value life less than other people," between 26 percent and 29 percent of respondents said they did. Fifty-one percent said Islam encourages the mistreatment of women.

When respondents were asked what comes to mind when they hear the word Muslim, 32 percent responded with a negative image and 2 percent offered a positive image. The remaining 67 percent gave a neutral response, which CAIR officials called somewhat encouraging.

"We take comfort in this finding," said Awad, adding that "the majority of Americans are open-minded and receptive" to learning more about Islam.

Other hopeful results from the poll, CAIR officials said, were that 67 percent said terrorists are misusing the teachings of Islam; 63 percent agreed that Muslims have family-oriented values; and 47 percent said Muslims have contributed to civilization. And 47 percent of the poll's participants said American Muslims are cooperating in the war on terror, with 21 percent disagreeing with that statement and 32 percent of those respondents having no opinion.

But when asked whether Muslims are as active as they should be in condemning terrorism, 50 percent said no and 46 percent said yes.

Council officials cited several projects they have begun to teach Americans about Islam, including a national ad campaign and a program to put books about Islam into all public libraries.

Ahmad said the organization commissioned the poll after its annual civil rights report in May counted more than 1,000 incidents of alleged harassment, violence and discrimination against American Muslims in 2003, an increase of 70 percent from 2002.



Mount St. Helens erupts with a plume of steam and ash Monday in Washington state with Mount Rainier standing in the background toward the north.

'Big One' not assured for Mount St. Helens

BY HAL BERNTON,
NANCY BARTLEY AND IAN ITH
The Seattle Times

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Mount St. Helens on Tuesday blew off its largest plume of steam and ash so far since it stirred to life late last month, prompting federal scientists to issue an ashfall advisory for sparsely inhabited areas northeast of the volcano. But scientists Tuesday were also emphatic that these repeated emissions aren't necessarily a buildup to a massive eruption that would come close to rivaling the catastrophic eruption of May 18, 1980.

"There's not necessarily going to be a 'big one.' People have to get that out of their minds. We need to get it out of our minds that there's some big eruption we're waiting for," said Jake Lowenstein, a U.S. Geological Survey geologist. "We don't expect any large eruptions that would put anybody's health at risk in any way." Instead, they said, the mountain is most likely beginning an extended period of magma movement that could last weeks or even months, as the 20-year-old lava dome in the crater breaks apart and is replaced by a new plug of volcanic rock.

Even so, the scientists said ash and steam emissions will remain spectacular, and a significant eruption remains possible enough that the volcano alert remains at its highest level, at 3. The geologists, however, said they may consider lowering that alert level. The alert level means simply that the volcano could erupt, but it doesn't differentiate between small eruptions and a huge ash plume that would reach cities.

The most recent steam and ash plume went up about 9 a.m. local time (PDT), puffing to as high as 12,000 feet. The emission was not accompanied by strong earthquakes.

Geologists said the steam is probably being generated by a large pool of water that has formed on the southwest side of the lava

dome, atop the vents that have opened up in the crater. The water has been bubbling as it boils and volcanic gases such as carbon dioxide and some sulfur dioxide rise through the pool.

The plume contained more ash than previous steam emissions, and rose higher into the atmosphere.

The National Weather Service issued an advisory warning people to "use caution in the vicinity of Mount St. Helens."

Scientists have mounted sensitive equipment in the crater to measure the earth moving and try to figure out how much magma is moving to the surface.

What the scientists did know Tuesday is that the old lava dome, which built up gradually in a series of small eruptions from 1980 to 1986 or so, is breaking apart. Analysis of ash scooped up from Friday's eruption shows it was probably made of pulverized rock from the lava dome.

The south side of the lava dome, near a glacier, has been deformed by the pressure of rising magma, and has risen about 150 feet from its position last month.

Mount St. Helens is a much different mountain than it was in 1980, they stressed. In 1980, the mountain had a full, symmetrical peak. And in the buildup to the May 18 eruption, a huge slope built up on the side of the peak and then gave way suddenly, causing a massive landslide that suddenly released pressure inside the volcano. That's what resulted in the catastrophic lateral blast that killed 57 people, leveled forests and sent a huge column of ash into the stratosphere.

Mount St. Helens now has no bulge other than the lava dome and seems to be venting in a relatively predictable way, Lowenstein said.

"It's important for everybody to realize here that Mount St. Helens has entered a period of eruptive activity. I think people need to get used to the concept here that we may be seeing this for weeks, maybe months."

Decades later, a new atmosphere

BY DAVID AMMONS
The Associated Press

COLDWATER RIDGE, Wash. — The rumblings, the steady earthquakes, the throat-clearing steam blasts all seem so eerily familiar. But nearly 25 years ago now, it was a dealmaker show that Mount St. Helens put on for the world.

Rumbling to life after more than a century of inactivity, the volcano erupted May 18, 1980, with mind-boggling fury, blasting away its glorious Mount Fuji-like dome and normal flank. The blast killed 57 people, flattened 230 square miles of forest land and flooded the valleys.

An apocalyptic plume of ash and pumice shot 15 miles into the heavens and turned that brilliant May morning into nighttime for hundreds of miles. The ash cloud girdled the globe, and youngsters started learning geology.

It was a story of a lifetime for a young Associated Press writer — the sheer audacity of untamed nature, the tragic deaths, the worldwide ashfall, the demolition of countryside where I had camped and hiked.

It was almost too much to take in.

I remember an airplane ride over the blast zone, hours after the eruption. We were looking for survivors but saw only destruction. I was supposed to be taking notes but was slack-jawed, gawking out the window at the awful transformation.

I noted the randomness, the odd, the inexplicable. Once-mighty trees flattened like rows of Paul Bunyan toothpicks. A shiny red convertible stuck on a newly created island. Horses stranded.

Cabins buried to the rafters. A lunar landscape not far from still-wooded slopes that had been shielded by a ridge.

Spirit Lake, where I'd camped at the state park and rented cabins from a crusty old local man named Harry Truman, was covered with trees and mud, no longer recognizable. Truman died in the eruption, but the man who refused to leave the mountain he loved.

I remember hitching a ride on a National Guard helicopter as heading very near the yawning crater, only to be chased off by a steam eruption. We beat the steam but not by much, if the pilot's extravagant relief was any indication.

In time, nature mostly recovered the slopes and foothills.

Foresters replanted the birds, animals and wildlife. The deer, the elk, the moose, the elk returned and the tourists, hikers and backpackers followed. New roads and bridges were built and, until a few days ago, it was possible to hike to the crater, which began resurrecting itself months after the blast with dome-building eruptions.

So when the mountain started rumbling and shaking more than 24 years after the 1980 blast, I was anxious to get back.

What's different this time is the circus atmosphere, the desire for a front-row seat and the utter lack of fear. Since the eruption, the government has offered the volcano as entertainment — creating a 110,000-acre national volcanic monument, building two beautiful visitor centers and staffing them with bright young rangers who show slides and give lively talks on the hour.

And in this era of reality TV, a 24-hour news cycle and instant everything, many of our visitors want drama on cue now. "When's it gonna blow?" one woman demanded of a ranger at Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center on Sunday.

"Hey, last night they said in 12 hours," complained her impatient friend.

30 states ready to ban abortion, advocacy group warns

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Thirty states are poised to make abortion illegal within a year. If the Supreme Court reverses its 1973 ruling establishing a woman's legal right to an abortion, an advocacy group said Tuesday.

The Center for Reproductive

Rights said some states have old laws on the books that would be triggered by the overturning of the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. Others have language in their state constitutions or strongly anti-abortion legislatures that would act quickly if the federal protection for abortion was ended and the

issue reverted to the states.

"The rebuilding blocks are already in place to recriminalize abortion," said Nancy Northup, the center's president.

Currently, it is believed that five of the nine justices support abortion rights, but that balance could be tipped if President Bush, in a second term, nominates a

new justice who reflects his anti-abortion views. Democratic contender John Kerry is a strong supporter of abortion rights.

The center found that 18 states had pre-Roe laws totally or partially banning abortion. In some cases the laws have been blocked by a court, but could easily be re-imposed were Roe overturned.

Freedom Riders bus museum delayed

Problems have led to resignations, accusations of racial prejudice

BY KYLE WINGFIELD
The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Down the block from Montgomery's sparkling new federal courthouse, the site of one of the city's most infamous civil rights-era injustices sits in disrepair.

Plans to make a multimillion-dollar museum of the old Greyhound bus station — where Freedom Riders were beaten by an angry white mob in 1961 — have been on hold for two years now.

The station languishes on a long list of unfunded, unprioritized projects that have led to resignations and accusations of racial prejudice at the Alabama Historical Commission.

A historical marker out front is all that distinguishes the empty, water-damaged building.

Janice Hawkins, chair of the historical commission's board, said the holdup is financial, with a number of worthy historical sites at risk of funds.

"We have made a commitment to each of these sites," she said.



A new busload of "freedom riders," including four white college professors and three black students, arrives in Montgomery, Ala., May 24, 1961, under guard by the police and the National Guard.

"We just can't live up to the full commitment until there is money to do it and a plan in place. The plan that is currently in place is beyond our means at this time."

That also was the sentiment of a Legislative committee two years ago when it stalled a contract for preliminary architectural work. The committee questioned spend-

ing \$1 million on planning, especially since the proposed price tag already was \$8 million.

Lee Warner, the former executive director of the Historical

Commission, resigned in August, saying Southern heritage groups, Gov. Bob Riley and the commission's board had stonewalled his efforts on several civil rights projects, including the Greyhound station.

Riley defended the concerns about planning costs and strongly denied as "ridiculous on its face" the suggestion that his administration opposes civil rights preservation projects.

For now, those who have pushed for the museum are getting restless, and they're afraid the old station's significance will be forgotten.

The Freedom Rides, designed to test the U.S. Supreme Court's 1960 ruling prohibiting segregation in interstate transportation, had been temporarily stopped after turning violent in Anniston and Birmingham. But on May 20, 1961, a new group of riders left Birmingham for Montgomery under the belief they would have a police escort to the station. The escort disappeared when the bus was met at the station by an angry mob armed with bats, bottles and lead pipes.

Bus heading toward capitol for National Coming Out Day

BY RONA MARECH
San Francisco Chronicle

Forty-four people. Nine white wedding gowns. One hundred thirty-two political T-shirts. Almost \$100,000 of funds raised. Two documentary filmmakers, three clergy people, 10 gay and lesbian couples married in San Francisco, one gay couple married in Massachusetts. One bus, rented for \$26,000. Eight days, 11 stops.

The National Marriage Equality Express, festooned with paper wedding bells, left Oakland, Calif., early Monday morning for a field trip of massive proportions. Singing a repertoire of wedding-themed songs they're sure to tire of over thousands of miles, the crew of cheery riders boarded the bus in the dark, headed past fog-coated hills and began their journey across the country.

The 44 riders are headed toward Washington, D.C., for an Oct. 11 rally for same-sex marriage. In between, their primary plan is to "inspire justice" and show a little San Francisco-style love and activism to both supporters and naysayers in parts of the country where Mayor Gavin Newsom isn't a hero and a tough budget isn't a primary point of civic pride.

The riders are a motley crew, including an elevator mechanic, a military veteran, a psychologist and two Unitarian ministers. Also on the bus are Stuart Gaffney and John Lewis, plaintiffs in a lawsuit seeking the right for same-sex couples to marry in California; Jim

*"I think
they're brave.
It's not easy
to travel across
the country.
They're going
to places where
they're not
wanted at all."*

Kirsten Bosch
Software developer

and Eve Lubalin, the parents of a lesbian, who have been married 40 years; and Martha McDewitt-Pugh, an American woman who moved to the Netherlands — it was the only way she and her Australian partner found to legally stay in the same country — but flew home for the bus ride.

The caravan is scheduled to land in Washington just in time for National Coming Out Day.

"If everyone meets people like you across the country, marriage equality will be a reality very soon. Go educate people," said Oakland City Councilman Danny Wan, who was there to wish the crew bon voyage. "Please send a postcard."

With that, the riders packed up their signs and snacks and pillows and drove off into the big, bad world outside the Bay Area bubble to get a taste of how the rest of the country thinks about them and their notions of walking

down the aisle man-by-man and woman-by-woman.

First stop: Sacramento. In the shadow of the Capitol building, the group held its first rally of the trip before a crowd that topped out at 40, if that. "Gov. Arnold, you can, you will, please sign the marriage bill," they chanted, referring to the Marriage License Non-Discrimination Act that Assemblyman Mark Leno will reintroduce in the Assembly this year.

"You are right, you are loved and you will prevail," Kathleen Montgomery, the president of the Sacramento chapter of the group Partners, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, told the crowd.

She said her son fell in love with a Portuguese citizen but can't sponsor him for U.S. citizenship as he could if he were straight and married. "They are united by love," she said, tearing up, "but separated by a continent and an ocean. To deny my son the right to build a life with the person he loves isn't just unfair... it's cruel."

While caravan riders and local supporters spoke, members of the crowd traipsed up to sign a long paper scroll — a letter to President Bush asking him to reconsider his position on the Federal Marriage Amendment, which would change the U.S. Constitution to ban same-sex marriage.

"I think they're brave," said Kirsten Bosch, 33, a software developer watching the rally. "It's not easy to travel across the country. They're going to places where they're not wanted at all."

Yawning, snoring could be signs of sleep apnea

BY LAURAN NEEGAARD
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Do you yawn throughout the day or get sleepy while driving? Does your family complain about loud snoring? You might be one of the millions of Americans with undiagnosed sleep apnea, which causes more than fatigue — it also seems to spur heart disease and other serious illnesses. Not to mention up to a sevenfold increase in the chance of a car crash.

Now Medicare is considering paying for home sleep testing, to make diagnosis easier. And federal health officials are hunting ways to get the people at highest risk of this stealthy disorder tested and treated.

"We need to develop some very aggressive strategies," says Dr. Carl Hunt, sleep chief at the National Institutes of Health.

Often dismissed as bad snoring, sleep apnea is far more serious: Sufferers actually quit breathing for 10 to 30 seconds at a time as their throat muscles temporarily collapse. They jerk awake to gasp in air more than 10 times an hour, exhausted each morning because their brains never got enough deep sleep.

An estimated 18 million Americans have sleep apnea, and more than half aren't diagnosed, according to NIH estimates. Patients don't remember the nightly breathing struggle, and often don't see a doctor unless a family member complains about the snoring and choking.

Apnea is most common among middle-aged men, but can strike even children. It often has enlarged tonsils and adenoids. Being overweight increases the risk, as does having small airways or apnea in the family.

Some 1,400 deaths from car crashes each year are caused by drivers with apnea, notes a study from the University of California at San Diego.

Worse, research suggests apnea sufferers are at significantly increased risk of high blood pressure, heart attack, congestive heart failure, stroke and diabetes. Why? Apnea stresses the body by preventing important blood-pressure lowering that occurs during normal deep sleep, and seems to alter blood chemistry in ways that can spur cardiovascular disease.

Research is just starting on whether alleviating apnea prevents those serious diseases, cautions Dr. David White, director of sleep disorders at the Harvard-affiliated Brigham & Women's Hospital.

There are a variety of apnea treatments that relieve the fatigue, however. The most common is called CPAP, a mask that blows air through the nose while sleepers breathe.

Surgery can widen or prop open airways.

But to get treated, people must know to seek tests. NIH is considering a campaign to get people at high risk screened; CPAP manufacturers recently launched an apnea education Web site, www.sleepapneainfo.com.

FACES

Harris behind the curtain

Ed Harris, known for movies such as "The Right Stuff" and "A Beautiful Mind," will make his debut as a Broadway director next year with a production of Sam Shepard's "Fool for Love."

"Fool for Love" is the story of two lovers holed up in a seedy motel. Harris Desert won an Obie Award for his portrayal of Eddie in the 1983 off-Broadway premiere of the drama. That same year, he and Shepard played astronauts in "The Right Stuff."

The production will open Feb. 10 at the American Airlines Theatre, the Roundabout Theatre Company announced. The cast will be announced later.

Fields acts for a cause

Kim Fields, who recently learned that she has roots in the Caribbean, is enlisting other celebrities to help the region recover from the hurricanes.

Fields is producing public service announcements for television and radio in which actors such as Blair Underwood ask viewers to support an aid campaign sponsored by the Caribbean Tourism Organization and its Web site, www.onecaribbean.org.

The actress, who starred in the TV series "The Facts of Life" and "Living Single," also plans to organize a series of concerts to benefit those islands hit hardest by the storms.

Warhol work in Germany

A retrospective of Andy Warhol self-portraits spanning decades of the artist's work is on exhibit at a museum in western Germany.

The show at the Sprengel Museum in Hannover brought together more than 50 paintings, along with 45 drawings, photographs, collages and films. Some of the portraits have been hung on walls, paired with Warhol's image.

The self-portraits "mark the intersection between Andy Warhol, the media figure, and his artistic work," the museum said. Curator Dietmar Ziger, who prepared the exhibition over the past four years, said Warhol's self-portraits span a 43-year period.

Stories and photos from wire services.

It pays to listen to your kids

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Be careful what you say around Jamie Lee Curtis.

She's a very sharp listener, and the conversations she overhears are the basis for her best-selling children's books. Her newest, "It's Hard to Be Five: Learning How to Work My Control Panel" (Joanna Cotler/HarperCollins) was inspired by her 5-year-old son's frustration as a castle he built tumbled over.

Meanwhile, her first book, "When I Was Little," was about her daughter's boasting about "the good old days" when she was 4, and "Where Do Balloons Go?" was a question Curtis overheard at a birthday party.

The star of "Trading Places," "True Lies" and "Freaky Friday" isn't leaving film behind. She co-stars with Tim Allen and Dan Aykroyd in the holiday release "Christmas With the Kranks" — after all, as the daughter of actors Janet Leigh and Tony Curtis, acting is literally in her blood.

But right now she's focused on her role as an author. Curtis spent a rare day away from her children, who were at home in Los Angeles, so she could promote her books on the "Today Show" and "The Tony Danza Show" in New York.

She gave a lot of thought to her outfits — and changed between the two tapings — in an effort to appeal to the audiences: a professional blouse for Katie Couric and crew, and a pink sweater draped over the shoulders of her crisp white shirt for Danza.

Her Manolo Blahniks, however, never left her feet. She's clearly proud that she got the fashionable, pricey shoes dirt-cheap by calling the store and asking what they had in her size (a 9½) that was on sale.

Salmon pumps? No problem. She bought them "at like an 89-percent discount," took them to a shoe-maker and dyed them black for a few bucks.

AP: What's so hard about being 5 versus 6 — or 45?

Curtis: "It's Hard to Be Five" is not a book about 5. It's a book about self-control, it's a book about teaching children about what it means to have self-control, to have their own knowledge about right and wrong. Five is the age when they start school, and 5 is the age when all that self-control comes into play. It's because they're expected to have it... and therefore, it's a book for birth to 8, because it's about the development of self-control, or a book for birth from 80 because there isn't an adult I know — not one — who doesn't have a form of a self-control issue or a myriad of self-control issues.

AP: Are six of your children's books entertaining storybooks or morality tales?

Curtis: Someone referred to them the other day as self-help books for kids. It was kind of obnoxious if I coined the phrase, but it was a lovely compliment and I took it.

AP: Was becoming an author a conscious career change?

Curtis: I sat down and wrote something that I didn't know was a book until I finished it. As soon as I finished it I knew it was a book because it made me cry. I thought "Wow! ... I had no delu-

sions or illusions that I was an author — I'm a well-educated uneducated person or an uneducated well-educated person, one of the two. And it was not my intention when I started this 12 years ago that this was a career path. It was not an attempt for attention, it was not an attempt for money, it was the first pure expression that I've ever been able to tap into.

AP: What do you think of the whole celebrity kiddie-book author phenomenon?

Curtis: [When I started] I hadn't done "True Lies" yet, so the biggest success I'd had at that point was "A Fish Called Wanda," and although it was a big success, I was not a big celebrity or a media darling on any level; I was a very low-level movie actor who'd had a little success.

AP: Do your kids, 17-year-old Annie and 8-year-old Thomas, think you're cool because you're famous?

Curtis: They don't care, maybe when they're older they'll care. Maybe when they're older they'll take some pride that they were the catalyst for all this creativity.



Actress and children's book author Jamie Lee Curtis has a new book out titled "It's Hard To Be Five."

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'Team America' creators battle NC-17 rating

BY RACHEL ABRAMOWITZ
Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD — They call it puppet love.

But the folks who determine film ratings call it NC-17.

The filmmakers behind "Team America: World Police," an action-gene satire featuring a team of muscular marionettes that save the world, are battling heads-on with the Motion Picture Association of America over the film's proposed rare rating, which would bar admission to anyone younger than 17.

At the heart of the dispute is a scene in

the film that shows simulated sex between the puppets. Thus far, the production team has submitted the scene nine times — each progressively less graphic — to the MPAA board, said Scott Rudin, the film's producer.

Each time, the MPAA insisted that the NC-17 rating would remain unless further cuts were made, the filmmakers said. The MPAA did not return phone calls late Monday.

"There's nothing we're asking for that hasn't appeared in other R-rated movies, and our characters are made of wood and have no genitalia. If the puppets did to each other what we show them doing, all they'd get is splinters," Rudin said.

"I can appreciate the ratings board has a responsibility to its constituents. But it's incredibly enervating for us as it must be for them to have to be going through this nine times."

The MPAA decision has financial as well as artistic implications — an NC-17 rating limits a film's audience and thus its box-office potential.

The ratings fight is particularly tense because the filmmakers are contractually required to deliver an R-rated film, and "Team America" is due in stateside theaters Oct. 15.

The film is written and directed by Matt Stone and Trey Parker, the writing-direct-

ing team behind "South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut."

That 1999 film, which featured a humorous sendup of the film ratings system, also was the subject of a protracted and very public ratings battle with the MPAA but ultimately got an R rating.

"Team America" features violent scenes in which a Tim Robbins puppet is set afire and a Susan Sarandon puppet is dropped off a 20-story building — all acts that passed MPAA muster.

"We blow Janeane Garofalo's head clean off, [but for the MPAA] it's all about the positions of the dolls having sex," Parker said.

"It's not funny — it's tragic."

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Day care homicide

NY NEW YORK — A 7-month-old boy suffocated in his crib at a Queens day care facility on the same day health department inspectors visited the center but left without acting on several serious violations, officials said.

The infant, Matthew Perilli, was discovered unconscious at the Forest Hills facility shortly after the inspectors finished investigating a complaint that the center was not licensed, officials said. The death was ruled a homicide.

The inspectors found that the facility did have a license. But the center's operator did not have every child within her line of sight, as required, and it appeared that she didn't have the required number of staff members, Health Commissioner Thomas Frieden said.

The cause of the baby's death was determined to be compression of the body by foreign objects, according to Ellen Borakove, a spokeswoman for the medical examiner's office. No criminal charges had been filed against the facility's operator, who was cited two weeks before Perilli's death for running another day care facility without a license, Frieden said.

Black bear killed

CA LOS OLIVOS — A 340-pound black bear was captured and killed after it ambled across a private school campus in Southern California.

The bear wandered onto the Dunn School campus. When state Fish and Game wardens arrived, they found the bear sitting in a tree 20 feet above the ground.

The animal was tranquilized, then taken to the forest and killed with a single gunshot to the head. "If it hadn't been bear season, I would have anesthetized the bear and moved it," said Lt. Roland Takayama of the state Department of Fish and Game. "It's unfortunate that this happened. No one wanted to kill this bear."

The only other option would have been to allow the bear to wander back to the forest on its own, Takayama said, adding that game wardens felt that they could endanger drivers on a nearby highway.

Costly pay mistake

PA BLOOMSBURG — A man who applied for a temporary position at a nuclear power plant was not hired has been convicted of theft for refusing to return \$2,194 in wages that were accidentally mailed to him because of a paperwork mistake.

Edward Woodland Jr., 34, faces up to seven years in prison after being convicted. He maintained that he worked at the Susquehanna nuclear plant throughout the disputed period in 2003.

Officials testified that Woodland attended only three days of screening and testing for a position as a temporary cleanup worker. He failed to pass a background investigation and was told he could not be employed, arrest papers said.

Officials at the plant sent the Danville man a registered letter asking him to return the money after the payroll error was discovered. He acknowledged getting the letter, but didn't respond, even when he was threatened with arrest, according to



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

prosecutors.

Jet crash site found

ND BISMARCK — Relying on research and math skills, members of a land surveyors' group located parts of an Air Force fighter plane that crashed in a lake more than 35 years ago.

Members of the state's Professional Society of Land Surveyors located the wreckage of the F-106 Delta Dart interceptor fighter in Lake Sakakawea, ending a 13-year search.

The plane crashed March 10, 1969, plunging through ice and sinking to the bottom of the lake. Its pilot, Capt. Merlin Riley, who was on a training mission from Minot Air Force Base, parachuted to safety.

Marijuana applications

VT MONTPELIER — Vermont will begin taking applications next month from people who want to legally use marijuana to cope with serious medical ailments.

Last spring, the Legislature passed a "medical marijuana bill." Gov. Jim Douglas allowed it to become law without his signature.

Under the new law, Vermonters won't face prosecution for using or possessing small amounts of marijuana if they have state identity

cards certifying they meet certain eligibility standards.

To qualify for the protection, an individual must have terminal cancer or AIDS, or debilitating and intractable symptoms caused by AIDS, cancer, HIV, multiple sclerosis or the treatments for any of these diseases.

Poker craze trouble

LA NEW ORLEANS — The poker craze triggered by cable TV's coverage of the game has led some Louisiana bars to host "Texas Hold'em" tournaments, putting them on a collision course with state liquor regulators.

Both sides say the dispute, which turns on the question of whether the bars are profiting from unlicensed, illegal gambling, likely will have to be settled in court.

The bars contend their "Texas Hold'em" events are legal because bar owners are not taking a cut of the pots. But the state Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control contends that because the bars sell more drinks during the tournaments, they are, in essence, engaged in a gambling business.

Racial profiling claims

MN BEMIDJI — In this neck of northern Minnesota, some Indians complain of being stopped for DWI — meaning "Driving While Indian" — as a sly way of saying they were pulled over for no good reason.

Behind the humor is anger over what they say is racial profiling of Indians by police and sheriff's deputies. Though authorities deny any discrimination, the American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota has opened its first office outside the Twin Cities, solely to gather profiling complaints.

"This is a situation that stinks in Minnesota," said Charles Samuelson, executive director of the Minnesota ACLU. "They get stopped at a little higher percentage than whites, searched at a higher percentage, arrested at a little higher percentage. At every opportunity where discretion can enter into it, the people of color lose."

Law officers across the region say they simply ticket or arrest people who break the law.

Help for handicapped

PA TAMAQUA — After four years of protests, advocates for the disabled have persuaded the Tamaqua post office to provide better handicapped access to the building.

The pact, signed by Earl E. Kennedy of the Anthracite Regional Center for Independent Living and Tamaqua Post Master Richard J. Maranki, calls for a bell at a rear door near the building's loading dock, a partial roof over the rear access door, a handicapped parking space next to the rear loading dock, and a customer service counter at ground level.

The agreement, reached two hours after protesters began demonstrating in front of the Tamaqua post office, gives the post office 60 days to comply.

"It's about time. I wish we could have accomplished this four years ago, but it's done," Kennedy said.



Hang on, cowgirl

Victoria Whitted, 6, rides a mechanical bull at the Southern New Mexico State Fair and Rodeo near Las Cruces, N.M.



Colorful musicians

Michael Priest, of Fayetteville, N.C., leads the Cross Creek Pipes and Drums band through the campus of the former Flora MacDonald College during the Highland Games in Red Springs, N.C.



Pumpkin heads

Lanterns of President George Bush, left, and Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, right, are seen during the Topsfield Fair in Topsfield, Mass.



I need some candy! Aaron Poppert, 5, of Geneva, Neb., waits for candy to be thrown from one of the floats in the Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island, Neb.



Wave sliding Dalton Howerton, 8, of Pocola, Okla., slides past a trough among waves on an inflatable slide at the 19th annual Spiro Chamber of Commerce Car Show and Arts and Crafts Festival in Spiro, Okla.



Stylish pooch Pudge sports a Razorback shirt from a pet store for Dogs, Cats and People Too in Fort Smith, Ark.



Work those muscles An unidentified biker competes in the Gatorman Triathlon in Lake Charles, La. The 1,000-meter swim, 21-mile bike ride and 6-kilometer run served as the National Sprint Championship. Male and female riders from 24 states competed in the event.

FBI to interview Muslims

AZ PHOENIX — With the final presidential debate in Tempe less than two weeks away, the FBI is increasing efforts to interview Phoenix-area residents, including Muslims, as part of a nationwide plan to prevent a terrorist attack before the Nov. 2 election, agents said.

Susan Herskovits, the FBI's spokeswoman in Phoenix, said this latest push "isn't really targeting any group" but is aimed to increase intelligence by contacting as many people as possible — not just Muslims.

Deedra Abboud, executive director of the local chapter of the Council of American-Islamic Relations, disagreed, saying Muslims obviously are a focus of the FBI effort. "They are contacting Muslims they've already contacted, and contacting ones they haven't met," Abboud said. "They tell us they are not using ethnic profiling — we tend to disagree, but we won't deny they are interviewing other people."

Great white surviving

CA MONTEREY — A young great white shark reached a milestone as it began its 17th day on exhibit at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Notorious for their inability to thrive in captivity, no other great whites are currently on display anywhere in the world — and none has ever been kept on exhibit for more than 16 days.

Commercial halibut fishermen inadvertently snagged the young female shark off the coast of Huntington Beach in late August. It had been kept in a 4 million-gallon pen off the Southern California coast until Sept. 14, when it headed north by truck — an unmarked, 3,000-gallon shark tank on wheels — to its new home.

The aquarium is keeping the shark on long-term exhibit in its 1 million-gallon Outer Bay tank, which contains 75 other large fish and turtles. The tank is a little larger than one Olympic-size swimming pool. More than 80,000 people have already seen the shark at its new home.

Tall woman has a ride

IN SHELLYVILLE — Sandy Allen has enough money to buy her dream van — one big enough to accommodate the 7-foot, 7¼-inch frame she has as the world's tallest woman.

Less than a week after an announcement of an effort to raise the \$5,200 needed to buy the used van, donations have reached about \$7,000, said Bonnie Shehan, a friend of Allen's.

Shehan had been Allen's unofficial chauffeur, using her minivan to drive Allen places, until the van was stolen. But while Allen said she was glad to leave the nursing home where she lives from time to time, Shehan's van was cramped.

Shehan said the van account would remain open and that any extra money will be used for the van's insurance and upkeep.

Gas drilling banned

MT HELENA — The federal government will no longer consider letting companies drill for natural gas along Mon-

tana's Rocky Mountain Front, the Bureau of Land Management confirmed, quieting for now one of the state's hottest environmental debates.

The Front, which stretches about 100 miles along the eastern crags of the Rockies south of Glacier National Park, is home to grizzly bears, elk, bighorn sheep and other wildlife.

BLM suspended work on an environmental impact study for the Front's Blackfoot area, where a Canadian company wanted to drill for gas. The decision to shelve drilling came at the "highest levels" of the Interior Department, said Marty Ott, state BLM director.

WWII rocket detonated

FL VERO BEACH — An unexploded rocket from World War II, unearthed by Hurricane Jeanne in a residential driveway, was safely detonated by Army munitions experts.

The warhead from the 10-foot-long "Tiny Tim" rocket was found and of, said Sgt. 1st Class Jake Holland.

"This area used to be a preparation and rehearsal ground for the D-Day invasion, so this ammunition was used in (U.S. Army) training," he said.

The partially exposed bomb was dug up and carried in a sand-filled truck to a disposal site.

Controversial pick

TX CRAWFORD — The editor of the Crawford, Texas, weekly that bills itself as President George W. Bush's hometown newspaper says he has no regrets about endorsing Bush's Democratic opponent John Kerry, even after a dozen business pulled their advertising from the publication.

"I'd do it again," Leon Smith, publisher of the Lone Star Iconoclast, told the Waco Tribune-Herald in Sunday's editions.

The Iconoclast, which endorsed Bush in 2000, said it now supports the Democrat because of disillusionment with the war and Bush's actions on Social Security, the economy and other issues.

Chain saw attack

RI NARRAGANSETT — A Richmond, R.I., man has been charged with attacking a fishing partner with a chain saw on a boat in Narragansett.

Benjamin Troyer sawed through a bathroom door where Frederic Tedeschi was hiding on a fishing vessel and sliced his partner on the arm, police said.

Police investigators believe Troyer was seeking retribution from an earlier altercation.

Alcohol killed student

OK NORMAN — A 19-year-old student whose body was found the morning after a party in a fraternity house died from alcohol poisoning, officials said.

Blake Adam Hammonree had a blood alcohol level of 0.42 when he died, or five times the legal limit for drunken driving, said Kevin Rowland, chief investigator for the state medical examiner.

University President David Boren has said he will shut down the fraternity's operations immediately and close the house for the rest of the academic year.

Photos and stories from wire services

OPINION

Read my lips: Movements signify nothing

A deficiency of nationally televised presidential debates is that so many commentators equip themselves with microscopes to discern the least important thing about the events so that they can then convert their finding into a major issue that confirms their prejudices.

Jay Ambrose



The irrelevancy that has generated the most excitement since the set-to between George W. Bush and John Kerry last week is what transpired on Bush's face when Kerry's lengthy jaw was flapping.

President Bush's lips went up and down and around, and it is possible to imagine that there was meaning in the movements, just as it is possible for astrologers to imagine there is meaning conferred by the star alignment on your birth date.

One observer, a Harvard humanities professor named Stephen Greenblatt, thought our president displayed "an astonishing range of emotions: confusion, annoyance and something like rage."

Greenblatt says in a New York Times op-ed piece that it was as if the audience had seen into the mind of Antony as he addressed Romans in Shakespeare's play "Julius Caesar." The professor is not being complimentary. Antony, he has told us earlier, is playing on fear and greed, hoping to use escalating violence for selfish purposes.

I subscribe to a different theory. It is that our president suffers from idiosyncratic lip muscles. They behave in such a way that his smiles look like smirks to some, betraying Bush's benign intentions.

He has become self-conscious about his lips and does all that he can to make them act contrary to their habits. He had to be aware that the nation would be watching his face when Sen. Kerry spoke. The mission was clear: Control those lips. But in a wrestling match with them, he left himself open for critics to say, "Look at that. The guy is projecting the despicable inner attitudes I always knew he had."

Kerry, too, had problems in this regard, it seemed to me. At least a few times when Bush was having at him, he looked distracted, as if in a daze. Others may not have seen it that way, and that's OK with me. I don't think it makes much difference one way or the other. For something like 45 minutes each, in front of an audience of tens of millions, these candidates had to stand still with nothing to do and try to look like something other than idiots. Go to your bathroom and try it out between just you and the mirror—for only five minutes—yet and see how dignified you think you look.

Is content, then, the only thing that matters in these debates—the uttered words that may or may not add up to something coherent and sensible? No. Al Gore's sighing in his first debate with Bush four years ago was worth taking note of because it was so unmistakably an affectation, something done with calculated afterthought to demonstrate disdain, and because the sighs at first made you wonder if the man had appendicitis



and needed to be rushed to a hospital. But a hospital isn't what was needed so much as a lecture on being polite and humble and adult.

Even then, I think it would be a mistake to base a vote on that bit of behavior, certainly not in and of itself, just as it would be a mistake—a worse one—to base a vote on Richard Nixon's afternoon shadow when he debated John F. Kennedy or the first George Bush's glances at his watch when he debated Bill Clinton and Ross Perot.

I am not even sure that some content flubs

should count for too much in what is, after all, an artificial situation that is not finally all that good a test of how someone might function as president. We may learn something from a debate that can help round out our views of the candidates when placed in the context of everything else we know about them. We may come to more-reliable convictions about their minds and character and ideas. But that's not likely to happen when people make mountains—or Shakespearean dramas—out of molehills.

Jay Ambrose is director of editorial policy for Scripps Howard Newspapers.

The "god" who carries around dangerous demons

BY RACHEL EHRENFELD
AND SHAWN MACOMBER

"Frankly, I don't think I'll need to do a lot more," Democratic philanthropist George Soros bragged to USA Today just a few months ago. "I now take the defeat of Bush more or less for granted."

Unfortunately for him, that defeat no longer seems so certain, so the billionaire, who had spent more than \$15 million in an attempt to get John Kerry elected, is now trying to protect his earlier investments by throwing in an additional \$3 million.

"America, under Bush, is a danger to the world," says Soros. To save the world and prevent the re-election of George W. Bush, Soros has dedicated extraordinary amounts of time and money because defeating Bush, he says, is his "central focus." His motto, "If I spend enough, I will make it right," is the essence of his articulated ideas about changing society.

It seems that Soros believes he was anointed by God. "I fancied myself as some kind of god..." he once wrote. "If truth be known, I carried some rather potent messianic fantasies with me from childhood, which I felt I had to control, otherwise they might get me in trouble."

When asked by Britain's Independent newspaper to elaborate on that passage, Soros said, "It is a sort of disease when you consider yourself some kind of god, the creator of everything, but I feel comfortable about it now since I began to live it out."

[S]ince I began to live it out. Those unfamiliar with Soros would probably dismiss the statement out of hand. But for those who have followed his career and sociopolitical endeavors, it cannot be taken quite so lightly.

Soros has proved that with the vast re-

sources of money at his command he has the ability to make the once unthinkable actual. His work as a self-professed "amoral" financial speculator has left millions in poverty when their national currencies were devaluated, and he pumped so much cash into shaping former Soviet republics to his liking that he has bragged that the former Soviet empire is now the "Soros Empire."

Now he's turned his eye on the internal affairs of the United States. Today's United States, he writes in his latest book, "The Bubble of American Supremacy," is a threat to the world, "run by a Republican Party that is the devil child of an unholy alliance between market fundamentalists" and "religious fundamentalists." We have become a "supremacist" nation.

During a speech at Columbia University's commencement ceremonies, Soros said, "If President Bush is re-elected, we must ask the question, 'What is wrong with

us?'" He has written that he always "felt that modern society in general and America in particular suffer from a deficiency of values."

Bush's aggressive waging of the war on terrorism has only increased these feelings. "When President Bush says, as he does frequently, that freedom will prevail, in fact he means that America will prevail," Soros writes. Who would Soros prefer to see "prevail"? Saddam Hussein? Osama bin Laden?

Despite his reputation as an international philanthropist, Soros remains candid about his true charitable tendencies. "I am sort of a *deus ex machina*," Soros told The New York Times in 1994. "I am something unnatural. I'm very comfortable with the public persona because it is one I have created for myself. It represents what I like to be as distinct from what I really am. You know, in my personal capacity I'm not actually a selfless philanthropist person. I've very much self-centered."

Soros was more succinct when he explained his life philosophy to biographer Michael Kaufman. "I am kind of a nut who wants to have an impact," he said.

But the speculator's visions don't end there.

"Next to my fantasies about being God, I also have very strong fantasies of being mad," Soros once confided on British television. "In fact, my grandfather was actually paranoid. I have a lot of madness in my family. So far I have escaped it."

In his book, "Soros on Soros," he says: "I do not accept the rules imposed by others. ... And in periods of regime change, the normal rules don't apply." Clearly, Soros considers himself to be someone who is able to determine when the "normal rules" should and shouldn't apply.

Rachel Ehrenfeld is the author of "Funding Evil" (Bonus Books, 2003). Shawn Macomber is a staff writer at the American Spectator. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Horoscope

The moon is void early in the day, so if you're not sure how you're feeling, don't worry about it. The tendency is to doubt your gifts, but resist the second-guessing game. Just do what's on your list, and count yourself among the productive people. The moon enters Leo in the afternoon, and you'll start to regain confidence in your direction.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

OCTOBER 7. This is the year you've been waiting for. A major growth spurt in your emotional life manifests itself in the next two months. On the other side of this, you're ready to comfortably and responsibly take on more than you ever have. Finances are much improved through the holidays, but spend wisely, even on the little things, to stay lucky.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Sure, you've got a fabulous sense of humor, but do not always be joking. Sigmund Freud argued that there are no jokes. Consider the subtext of what you are saying to others and how your words might make them feel.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

The past is no indicator of where you're going. Surprising turns are in store. Not even you could have predicted where you'll end up. Make the most of your opportunities by getting organized.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

You'll hear from the old peer group gallery today. It seems certain people always have an opinion, but seldom is it one that helps you on your quest. That's why it's important not to show anyone your half-finished works.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Just when you'd like to stay in and be comfortably cocooned from the rest of the world, you should go out instead. Make yourself accessible, and make your talents known. This is no time to coddle yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

There is no mountain to move, and it's the one who's got to do it. Luckily, this mountain comes in the form of

scraps of paper, two-minute tasks and "errands" that can be accomplished online or over the phone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Sometimes, you act on impulse, but more often, you act on second thought. In matters of romance, you benefit from doing the former, but in business, you're better off doing the latter. Tonight, deliver a sincere act of gratitude.

Joyce Jillson



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Try to lighten up. It's not as though the hopes and dreams of your entire family are riding on your shoulders. OK, so maybe they are a little bit. But that's their problem. Your responsibility is to follow your own bliss.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Nothing annoys you like people who feel entitled to a station they've done nothing to deserve. So remember that you, too, should get to your rightful place through the merit of your actions, not through presumption.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Your mind is filled with "if" onlys. "If only I were thinner, richer or more successful, then I could be attractive to X. This is all teen fantasy stuff, but it gets you thinking about your goals again. Oh yeah, goals—remember those?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You'll notice that you're powerful—more powerful than you thought you were. Perhaps that's why friends and family tend to duck behind you for cover. Your strength is your willingness to confront what needs to be confronted.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're focused, centered and ready for anything. That's why people come to you when they're wondering what to do next. Take time to prepare not only for your own activities but also a list of tasks you can possibly delegate.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Though diplomacy has gotten you this far, now it's time to overstep your boundaries. You are admired for your audacity. People around you were just waiting for someone to say what was on everyone's mind.

Creators Syndicate

Calvin and Hobbes



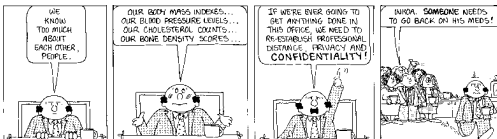
Jump Start



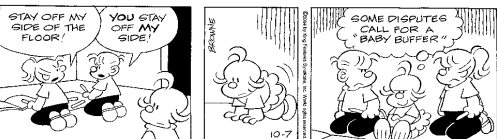
Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



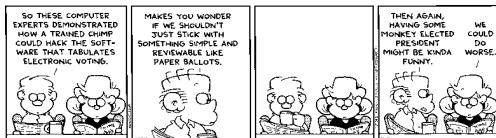
Better or Worse



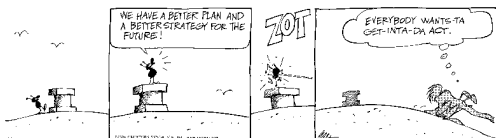
Peanuts



Foxrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



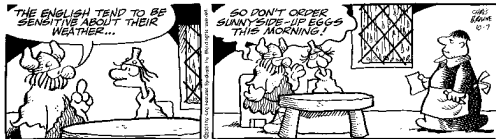
Blondie



Dilbert



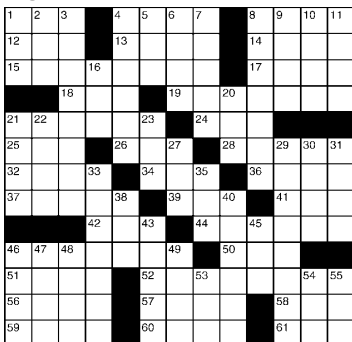
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Fool
4 Census statistics
8 Sushi eater's quaff
12 Debtor's letters
13 Pay (up)
14 Friendly person?
15 Jeff Probst's contest
17 Emma Peel
18 Dessert choice
19 Outdo
21 Roman poet
24 Chum
25 French 24-Across
26 Conclusion
28 Pondered
32 Young woman
34 Succumb to gravity
36 Wrestling style
37 Father of psychoanalysis
39 Frenzied
41 Sartorial woe
42 Cage component
43 Snoopy, for example
46 Dali-esque
50 — Baba
51 Otherwise
52 A cube has six
56 Green-eyed monster
57 Verifiable
58 Seaman's assent
59 Navigator's tack
60 Prognosticator

Down

- 61 Superman foe
Luthor
23 USNA grad
27 Weir
29 Re "Nip/Tuck" goings-on
30 Pianist Gilels
31 Information
33 Fringed transports
35 Tie up the phone
38 Fizzle out
40 Less likely to head
43 Woody fibers
45 Carte lead-in
46 Appear
47 Radius' neighbor
48 Answer an invite
49 Tacklebox item
53 Actress
54 McLanahan
55 CBS logo
56 Westheimer
57 Tropic

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-7

CRYPTOQUIP

U A I W Y N Y H H K I P Y W N A
D R B P I I L B Y K K D H R X Y X Q
N L U R . U L Z K C Q L Z R Y Q

D H ' R C I N Y K B D W Y H I C ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PERSON WANTS TO COMMUNICATE WITH A FISH, I SUPPOSE HE COULD DROP IT A LINE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals T

Tipping for hair care big debate

Dear Abby: I'm writing in response to "Curly" in Chesterfield, Mo., who asked for guidance on tipping hairdressers who rent their stations and keep 100 percent of the fees they charge. "Curly" was of the opinion that tipping is only for people who work on commission.

You correctly advised her to ask her hairdresser if tips are accepted — and advised her that the usual amount is 15 to 20 percent of the bill. Speaking as a hairstylist for the last 20 years, I cannot believe the number of people who don't know how to tip. Whether the stylist is an owner, manager or just a hairstylist, that person is still giving the customer a service. Many of my clients give more than that, and some still give nothing.

People should remember that when they give a tip, they are saying, "Thank you."

Dear Stylist: Not everyone

agrees. Read on:

Dear Abby: I disagree with your reply to "Curly." My hairdresser rents her station from the salon owner. She sets her own prices and hours. I typically pay her \$100 for a cut, style and highlights, which takes her about 2½ hours. The woman makes more per hour than I do, at a business she basically owns! I only tip people who work for someone and earn minimum wage. I don't tip restaurant owners, and they don't expect it. They want my

return business.

— Rene in San Pedro
Dear Rene: And that's your privilege. Read on:

Dear Abby: Thank you so much for your response to "Curly." Customers think that because we pay rent, we pocket

all our income. Wrong! People don't realize that on top of the rent we pay, we must also purchase all of our own tools, chemicals and products. Our scissors alone cost at least \$150 — most of the time more. When they need sharpening, it costs \$25. We have no benefits. We must pay for 100 percent of our insurance. If our kids get sick and we can't work — we don't get paid. When a customer stands us up, we are not only out the money, but we are also the time we allocated for that customer.

It is amazing to me how those who have the most money are the stingiest tippers — and the people who have little are so generous! I feel that when you treat customers with love and cater to their needs, a tip is their response to how well we are doing our job.

— Miss Tress in Kankakee, Ill.
Dear Miss Tress: And so do I.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.ueexpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BUAQ

CONOR

IROING

BLIGET

Answer: THE

Yesterday's

Jumbles: PHONY WEDGE BRANDY AROUND

Answer: The cowboy didn't join his pals in the saloon because he was — ON THE "WAGON"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Anglin



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Daughter hears parents have sex

Dear Annie: This December, it will be one year since our daughter, "Cara," moved back home after graduating college. Cara's bedroom and our master bedroom share a wall. She claims the wall is too thin because she can hear our bed squeak and listen to pieces of our conversation. She has even kidded us about it in front of our friends, and we all have laughed.

My husband and I have always enjoyed a very active and enjoyable sex life — until now. The knowledge that Cara can hear us has put a damper on our intimacy. Except when we take a long weekend trip, our sex life has virtually come to a halt. We both work long hours, and it is difficult to schedule a quick get-together when we think Cara will be gone for an hour or two. Even so, I am always afraid she might come back in the middle, so we often end up not doing anything.

It really bothers me that I feel such pressure from Cara's keen hearing that I need to hide out. I

Annie's Mailbox



have talked to Cara about it, and she insists she doesn't want to stop. From enjoying ourselves. Nonetheless, I am frozen and cannot seem to shake it off.

— Under a Cloud
Dear Under a Cloud: The best solution would be if Cara found her own living arrangements, and you should encourage this. You also might consider install-

ing some soundproofing material on your walls so Cara stops eavesdropping on your love life.

Until then, put out a "Do Not Disturb" sign or wrap your husband's tie on the entrance doorknob, and tell Cara it means she should run some errands for a couple of hours.

Dear Annie: I recently lost my wife of over 20 years to the Seventh Commandment (adultery). I never saw it coming. I trusted her completely.

I have two teenage children

who live with me, and we are struggling. I am an emotional mess. I find it very difficult to work every day and still perform all the duties my wife did. I have no time to do anything but try to maintain some stability for my children. I'm almost 50 years old. How does a man who was dedicated to only one woman for over 25 years find happiness again?

— Augusta, Ga.
Dear Augusta: You are overwhelmed because you are still grieving over the loss of your marriage, and you're trying to do too much.

Counseling will help you and your children find some balance. You sound like a good person, and you will make some woman a great catch. When you're ready, tell your friends you're interested in dating again, and let them help you get back into circulation.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



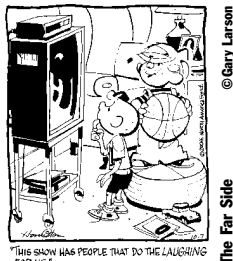
10-7

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"P.J.'s gonna have it easy learning to write his name."

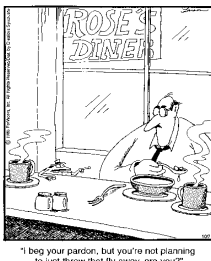


Dennis the Menace



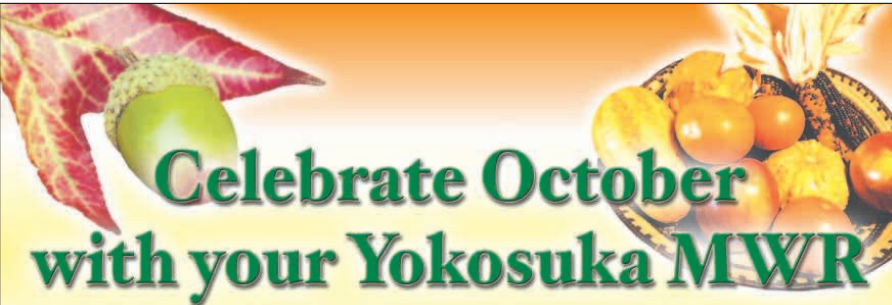
© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Non Sequitur





Celebrate October with your Yokosuka MWR

Negishi Club 242-4151

National Pizza Month

Now thru October 31

Celebrate with a 16-inch pizza special, dine-in or take-out, for only \$10 for cheese and \$11 for pepperoni

Columbus Day

October 11

Breakfast at 0900

Prime Rib Night

Saturdays

Club Takemiya 246-8075

National Seafood Month

October

Receive \$1 off all seafood items on lunch or dinner menus

Eddie Cotton Performance

October 9 and 23 from 1700 to 2100

Enjoy this outstanding musician live in the dining room

Pre-Columbus Day Jam

October 10 from 2100 until...

Celebrate America by partying the night away and eating free finger foods while our DJ plays all your favorite tunes

CPO Club 243-5606

Cruise Inn Now Open Friday and Saturday Nights

Thanks to your requests, we're now open 1900 to 2400 Friday and Saturday nights! Stop by and see what's cooking!

Chinese Night

Thursdays in October

Seafood Night

Fridays in October

Yama Mexican Buffet

Saturdays in October

Seaside Club 243-3379

Family Night

October 8 from 1700 to 2100

Take your family for a special dinner and receive a 10 percent discount on the entire meal tab. Children 11 years and under will receive free balloons

Columbus Day

October 11 from 1100 to 1500

Meet your friends for lunch and everyone receives free non-alcoholic drinks including coffee and hot or iced tea

Bosses' Day

October 15 from 1100 to 1500

Take your boss to lunch and they receive free dessert and coffee with meal purchase

Couple's Night

October 22 from 1700 to 2100

Take your special someone to dinner and both of you receive a free non-alcoholic beverage

Club Alliance 243-5951

Latin Explosion with DJ Martha

Thursdays from 2000 to 2400

First Floor

Chef's Choice Night

Fridays from 1700 to 1900

Upper Deck Sports Bar

DJ Masa

Saturdays from 2200 to 0200

First Floor

Columbus Day

October 11

Sail around the world to the Café! Receive a free non-alcoholic beverage with purchase of cheese nachos or nachos supreme

Bosses' Day

October 14 from 1700 to 2000

Bring your boss and enjoy free food and entertainment

Officers' Club 243-5002

Prime Rib Buffet

Saturdays

All Hands Oktoberfest

October 23

Join us for authentic German-style cuisine, German beer and Oompa Band for only \$20.95 adult, \$8.95 child 8 to 11 years and \$6.95 for child four to seven years old

United Nations Day

October 24

Celebrate this important day with a mouth-watering brunch buffet featuring food from all over the world. Bring your entire Wardroom along with you, too

Bingo! Join us at Club Alliance Every Saturday

at 1200 for your chance to take home grand prizes of \$2,500, \$5,000 or \$10,000 and a guaranteed \$1,000 giveaway for the last game. Can't wait till the weekend?

Then join us at the CPO Club every Tuesday & Thursday at 1800

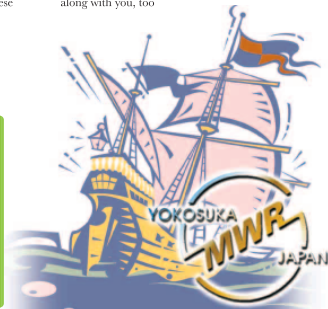
#1138



Starbucks Coffee Now open

Monday - Friday 0630-2100

Saturday & Sunday 0730-2100



Bang: Perez knocked out in 3rd inning

BANG, FROM BACK PAGE

Perez has complained about the lack of run support after getting a franchise-record 18 no-decisions this season. He couldn't complain this time.

Two of the biggest hits came on consecutive at-bats from players whose performance dragged at the finish.

Edgar Renteria, 3-for-21 in his past six games, had a two-run double in the five-run third that broke open the game. Edmonds, who entered the postseason in a 1-for-29 slump, followed with a two-run homer to chase Perez.

Walker, who was 1-for-15 against Perez in the regular season, got the two-out, third-inning rally started with his two-out homer on the first pitch. Edmonds also connected on the first pitch.

Perez, making his first career postseason start, faced a tall order since the Cardinals had the three best hitters against left-handed pitching, including Pujols (.379), Scott Rolen (.371) and Renteria (.366). Plus, Pujols was 6-for-10 against him in the regular season with two homers, two doubles and seven RBIs.

Perez' bottom line — six runs on five hits in 2 1/3 innings — was even worse than his spotty past record against the Cardinals. In four career regular-season starts, none of them this season, he's 2-1 with a 9.6 ERA.

Williams was a compromise



Dodgers pitcher Odalis Perez, right, sits in the dugout with Eric Gagne after being pulled from the game in the third inning.

pick as St. Louis' Game 1 starter after an injury to 15-game winner Chris Carpenter and season-long inconsistency by opening-day starter Matt Morris.

Carpenter was lost for at least the first round of the playoffs because of nerve irritation in his right biceps on Sept. 18, and Morris, who had been in line for Game 1, limped in with a 4.72 ERA and lasted only four innings in his final regular-season start.

Williams, whose 11 victories trailed the staff in the regular season, labored somewhat and threw 116 pitches with two strikeouts and one walk. The Dodgers scored in the fifth on consecutive doubles by Cesar Izturis and Jayson Werth, and added a run in the sixth on Adrian Beltré's leadoff single and Alex Cora's two-out triple.

Tom Wilson hit a two-out homer in the ninth for Los Angeles.

Clemens, recovered from virus, to start for Houston vs. Atlanta

BY JOEL ANDERSON
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — A few hours before the Houston Astros' regular-season finale, Roger Clemens was sick to his stomach and hooked up to an IV tube.

Astros owner Drayton McLane was overcome with disappointment until manager Phil Garner sidled up to him in the clubhouse.

"I was absolutely crushed. Roger still wanted to pitch but ... I knew he was in no condition to go," McLane recalled later in a champagne-soaked clubhouse. "But Phil was telling me, 'Don't worry. This could work out perfectly for us.'"

It sure did. Brandon Backe took the mound in Clemens' place Sunday and delivered a clutch performance to help the Astros cap an incredible turnaround, clinching the wild card with a win over Colorado. Back in the playoffs for the first time since 2001, they begin a best-of-five series Wednesday at N.Y. East-champion Atlanta.

And in a magnificent stroke of timing and luck, the Rocket will start for the Astros on extra rest in Game 1.

"Maybe it's part of a script," general manager Gerry Hunsicker said with a wry smile. "We're confident that it's

one of those 12-hour viruses."

Such a storybook scenario appeared far-fetched when the struggling Astros fired manager Jimmy Williams during the All-Star break. Garner made little immediate impact, and Houston was 56-60 on Aug. 14.

Four days later the Astros lost star pitcher Andy Pettitte to season-ending elbow surgery. Disappointed by the team's struggles following such preseason promise, Clemens called the year a "nightmare."

Then the Astros went on to a major league-best 36-10 run to

Atlanta
96-66
.270
803
178
3.74
48
116

Houston
REC 92-70
BA .267
RUNS 803
HR 187
ERA 4.05
SV 47
ERRORS 101

Andrew Jones
Schedule (Japan Time)
Thursday 5 a.m. (AFN-Sports)
Houston (Clemens 18-4) at Atlanta (Wright 15-8)
Friday 5 a.m. (AFN-Sports)
Houston (Oswalt 20-10) at Atlanta (Hampton 13-9)

Division Series

Roger Clemens

win an exciting stretch duel with San Francisco, Chicago, San Diego and Florida.

And Houston is in great shape going into the postseason: Clemens will pitch on six days' rest as long as he's recovered from his stomach virus, and 20-game winner Roy Oswalt will be ready to follow.

"It just so happens that our rotation is going to be set up for the playoffs," Houston outfielder Lance Berkman said. "We weren't

even trying to do that way. It's a break for us and we just hope that Rocket can get back to full strength."

Clemens was lured out of his 78-day retirement for moments just like this.

At 42, he is an improbable Young Award

candidate: His winning percentage of .818 led the majors, he tied for second in the NL with 18 wins and was fifth with a 2.98 ERA. He's also been the same power pitcher he was with Boston, Toronto and the Yankees.

"It doesn't surprise me," former Yankees teammate Derek

Jeter said. "When he retired, or supposedly retired last year, it was never a question of his stuff.

He was throwing 95, 96 the last game when he so-called retired. "For him, it was a matter of, I think, being away from his family. Staying in Houston, he had a chance to do both."

Fans returned to Minute Maid park in droves to see Clemens and his 1990s and years of postseason experience, to help them end a humiliating string of October failures: Houston has never won a postseason series in 42 years of existence.

"I don't think anyone left has more World Series experience than Roger Clemens," Garner said Sunday. "Our pitching rotation has been set up nicely because of Roger's illness."

Said McLane: "I think the odds are in our favor. It's our turn."

Maybe it is. The addition of Clemens has clearly made a difference on a club that once scared no one in the fall.

"He's the same guy he always was," Braves third baseman Chipper Jones said. "Hopefully, that stomach virus will affect him. But I doubt it."

"[Clemens is] the same guy he always was. Hopefully, that stomach virus will affect him. But I doubt it."

Chipper Jones
Braves third baseman

Baseball playoffs

DIVISION SERIES

American League
New York vs. Minnesota
Tuesday, Oct. 5
Minnesota (Santana 26-0) at New York (Mudra 12-9)

National League
Minnesota (Buehler 11-5) at New York (Lieber 14-8)

Wednesday, Oct. 6
New York (Hernandez 8-2 or Brown 10-4) at Minnesota (Silva 14-8)

Thursday, Oct. 7
New York vs. Boston
Minnesota at New York, if necessary

Friday, Oct. 8
Boston (Schilling 2-5) at Anaheim (Washburn 11-9)

Saturday, Oct. 9
Boston (Martinez 16-9) at Anaheim (Clayton 12-2)

Sunday, Oct. 10
Anaheim (Escobar 11-12) at Boston (Arroyo 10-9 or Wakefield 12-10)

Monday, Oct. 11
Anaheim at Boston, if necessary

Sunday, Oct. 10
Boston at Anaheim, if necessary

National League
St. Louis vs. Los Angeles
Tuesday, Oct. 5
St. Louis 8, Los Angeles 3, St. Louis leads series 2-0

Thursday, Oct. 7
St. Louis (Morris 12-10) at Los Angeles (Lima 13-5)

Friday, Oct. 8
St. Louis (Suppan 15-9) at Los Angeles (Perez 7-0, if necessary)

Saturday, Oct. 9
Los Angeles at St. Louis, if necessary

Sunday, Oct. 10
Houston (Clemens 18-4) at Atlanta (Wright 15-8)

Monday, Oct. 11
Houston (Oswalt 20-10) at Atlanta (Hampton 13-9)

Tuesday, Oct. 12
Atlanta (Thomas 14-8) at Houston (Lincecum 11-10, if necessary)

Wednesday, Oct. 13
Houston at Atlanta, if necessary

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With Melvin out, Mariners looking for a new skipper

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Don't ask Seattle Mariners General Manager Bill Bavasi what — or who — he wants in a new manager.

Don't bother asking why he fired the previous one, either.

Bavasi refused to answer those questions Monday when he announced that Bob Melvin won't return next season.

Strangely, the GM insisted the Mariners still love Melvin.

Bavasi gave the impression that Melvin simply wasn't the right fit any longer.

"I have absolutely nothing negative to say about Bob," Bavasi said. "He's a real good man. He works hard. He cares about his players."

Melvin was fired one day after Seattle ended its worst season in 12 years with 99 losses. He got the news during what was described as a congenial meeting, in which Bavasi said tears were shed but disclosed little more.

Melvin, who led the Mariners to a 93-69 record in 2003 after Lou Piniella left for Tampa Bay, wasn't available for comment. When Bavasi addressed the media later, he praised Melvin for his hard work and commitment to players. But he left reporters puzzled because he wouldn't say why the move was necessary.

Bavasi said the decision "crystallized in my mind" over the past five or six days, and that team chairman Howard Lincoln and president Chuck Armstrong supported the move.

Bavasi said he'd even called another undisclosed team to suggest Melvin for that organization's managerial vacancy.

To the untrained eye, I'm talking out of both sides of my mouth," Bavasi said. "We just let him go, but I'm recommending him. In this crazy business, that fits because he will do things differently the sec-

MLB briefs

and time. He had some bad luck here."

Bavasi had no timetable for hiring a successor, nor would he say what the front office wants in the next manager. He refused to discuss names, saying only that he hopes to work quickly.

"We'll probably target somebody, go after them, and go from there," he said.

Potential candidates include Angels bench coach Joe Maddon, who was in Anaheim when Bavasi was general manager there. Maddon handled the team for the final 29 games in 1999 after Terry Collins resigned.

New Brewers owner plans few changes

MILWAUKEE — The buyer of the Milwaukee Brewers said Monday he doesn't plan any major changes to the ballclub — in the field or the front office.

After days of speculation, the Brewers officially introduced Mark Attanasio, the Los Angeles investor who reportedly offered \$220 million for the team.

Attanasio said that after meetings with staff and exhaustive reviews of the team's finances, he believes the Brewers are already on the right track to a winning season, despite coming off their 12th consecutive losing season.

"Now it's our job to start winning more games. Everything we do is going to be directed to winning more games," the 47-year-old said.

Indians GM: Viquez's return a 'longshot'

CLEVELAND — Indians General Manager Mark Shapiro has bigger priorities this offseason than bringing back shortstop Omar Viquez.

Viquez, who will become a free agent



Mariners General Manager Bill Bavasi, above, praised fired manager Bob Melvin but said, "He had some bad luck here." Seattle finished with 99 losses, its worst season in 12 years.

next month when the Indians don't pick up his \$5 million contract option for 2005, wants to return for a 12th season in Cleveland. However, Shapiro is targeting a starting pitcher and perhaps a closer before he can even consider offering the 37-year-old Viquez a contract.

Shapiro called bringing back the widely popular Viquez "a longshot."

"We're trying to build a championship team and Omar could be a part of that, could be," Shapiro said Tuesday. "That doesn't mean he has to be. I want Omar back, but I want this team to have the best chance to contend next year."

Viquez batted .291 (.657-for-.567) with seven homers and 59 RBIs this season.

Tigers exercise option to keep Trammell

DETROIT — The Detroit Tigers exercised their option on manager Alan Trammell's three-year contract Tuesday, keeping him with the team through the 2006 season.

The Tigers went 72-90 last season after losing 119 games in his first year.

"We are pleased with the leadership he displayed on the field and the clubhouse by him and his coaching staff," Tigers president and general manager Dave Dombrowski said.

Yanks leave Giambi off playoff roster

NEW YORK — Jason Giambi was dropped Tuesday from the New York Yankees' roster for their first-round playoff series against the Minnesota Twins.

New York will carry 11 pitchers for the best-of-five series, including Orlando Hernandez and Kevin Brown, candidates to start Games 3 or 4, along with Javier Vazquez.

Giambi tried to play himself back into shape following treatment for a benign tumor, but he went 4-for-33 (.121) after he was activated from the disabled list on Sept. 14. He hit a career-low .208 this season with 12 homers and 40 RBIs.

Missouri-Kansas game no longer a 'Border War'

The Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Out of respect for U.S. troops fighting overseas, Missouri and Kansas are changing the name of their sports rivalry from "Border War" to "Border Showdown."

"We feel that in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, and the ensuing chaos around the world, it is inappropriate to use the term 'war' to describe intercollegiate athletics events," Kansas athletic director Lew Perkins said Monday. "We need to be more sensitive to the men and women who defend our country for us."

The schools have competed in sports for more than a century.

"Our rivalry with Kansas is a very important thing to our people, but it certainly pales in comparison with what is taking place overseas, and this is the right thing to do," Missouri athletic director Mike Alden said.

Unlike other college rivalries referred to as wars, the Missouri-Kansas competition actually traces its roots to armed conflict. In the 1860s, tensions between Missouri, a slave state, and Kansas, a free state, led to bloody clashes along the border.

In the most celebrated confrontation, Confederate sympathizers

Sports briefs

led by William Quattrill sacked Lawrence and burned most of the town to the ground.

News accounts from earliest football games between the schools recount fights breaking out in the crowd between descendants of Union and Confederate soldiers.

Oklahoma St. football coach defekals alleged rapist Moresky

STILLWATER, Okla. — Oklahoma State football coach Les Miles said Monday there is no need for further disciplinary action regarding rape allegations against Vernard Moresky, the nation's third-leading rusher.

Miles said he was aware of the allegations last season and he took action at the time, although there was no public announcement.

Moresky was never charged with rape.

Moresky, who has averaged 176 yards for the 22nd-ranked Cowboys (4-0), was suspended during spring and summer workouts last year as a result of a misdemeanor charge of knowingly re-

ceiving stolen property filed after a university police officer arrested him while riding a stolen bicycle.

Payne County District Attorney Rob Hudson said university police conducted a thorough investigation into the rape allegations and prosecutors also sought DNA tests through the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. Hudson said prosecutors believed the strength of the evidence was not enough to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Moresky was guilty.

Hudson said one factor was Moresky's willingness to submit to a lie-detector test and the fact that he passed the test while describing his account of what happened.

The rape allegations emerged again Monday after the university's student newspaper, The Daily O'Collegian, reported on records of the allegations.

Buffalo suspends soccer players for hazing incident

AMHERST, N.Y. — The University at Buffalo has suspended three soccer players following a hazing episode that put a freshman player in the hospital, officials said Monday.

The incident involving sophomores Braden Byler, Brandon Foley and Erik Jaanimagi and the unidentified freshman allegedly took place at a campus party on Sept. 25. The university declined to release details but said the three students were suspended on alcohol and hazing charges.

The freshman was hospitalized for several hours on Sept. 26.

Other students face possible disciplinary action, according to the university, which continues to investigate.

Campus police said the incident was being handled administratively and that the students involved in the alleged hazing would not face criminal charges.

Smashnova-Pistolesi upsets Sugiyama in Germany

FILDERSTADT, Germany — Anna Smashnova-Pistolesi upset eighth-seeded Ai Sugiyama of Japan 6-3, 7-6 (3) in the opening round Monday of the Porsche Grand Prix, an event in which the field has been decimated by injuries.

The \$650,000 tournament, which usually has a stellar field, still boasts nine of the world's top 15 but has lost four former No. 1 players.

Defending champion Kim

Clippers, fighting her recurring wrist injury, became the latest to pull out on Sunday, following Serena Williams, Jennifer Capriati and Justine Henin-Hardenne.

N.M. State basketball coach fights viral infection

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — New Mexico State basketball coach Lou Henson has been in the hospital for six days after coming down with what his wife described as a viral infection.

The 72-year-old Henson, who has 775 victories in 41 seasons of coaching in Division I, was admitted to the hospital on Sept. 28.

School spokesman Sean Johnson said Monday he could not release Henson's condition for privacy reasons. The university, however, said he was expected to make a full recovery and hoped to be back on the bench in time for the start of the season.

Assistant head coach Tony Stubblefield said Monday evening he had visited Henson and that he was doing well. Stubblefield has been appointed interim head coach until Henson returns.

The athletics department said Henson's condition is not related to the lymphoma form of cancer he was diagnosed with in the summer of 2003.

Shaq, Kobe happy on the own

The Associated Press

Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant seemed happy campers 3,000 miles apart. Baron Davis drew the ire of Hornets ownership, and Jason Kidd acknowledged he subconsciously wonders about leaving the Nets.

The majority of training camps opened Tuesday around the NBA after an offseason of many trade requests — not all of which were fulfilled.

O'Neal is starting anew in Miami, Tracy McGrady has gone to Houston, Steve Nash to Phoenix, Antoine Walker to Atlanta and Steve Francis to Orlando. Davis is stuck in New Orleans. Vince Carter remains a Raptor and Kidd is still with the vastly depleted Nets.

"I dream about it, but I haven't asked to be traded. Do I desire to be traded? No, I don't think so," Kidd said Monday, breaking a summer-long public silence and offering his first comments on the trades of Kenyon Martin and Kerry Kittles.

O'Neal's public statements were an assortment of one-liners.

"I weigh 330,000 pounds... I'm the NBA's best NFL player, and I've always been a 7-footer in the NBA — for 12 years running."

His strength? "I'll beat you up right now if you want me to."

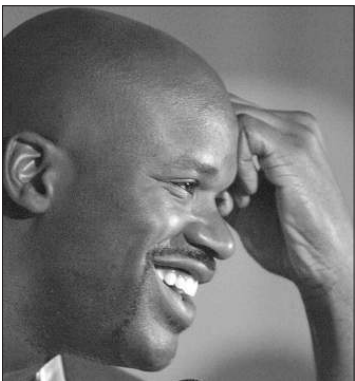
And regarding Heat coach Stan Van Gundy: "Who's that?"

The comedy routine helped illustrate how relaxed O'Neal is on the eve of his 13th NBA season.

Bryant is refreshed, too, after a summer that included the removal of coach Phil Jackson, the trade of O'Neal and the departures of Gary Payton, Karl Malone and Derek Fisher.

"This is my team to lead," Bryant said. "Shaq was the focal point of the team. Now it's different. Guys are looking to me for leadership, so it's important that I establish what type of team we're going to be."

Bryant got a jump on that by phoning each of his teammates, a group including nine new play-



His days of sharing the spotlight with Kobe Bryant over, Shaquille O'Neal, above, will be the unquestioned leader of the Miami Heat.

ers, during the summer. Most of the team has been working out together informally for the last few weeks.

"He has done a great job with his leadership. He's been a connector of the team," said new Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich.

In New Orleans, Hornets owner George Shinn called Davis "immature" and "a prima donna" for asking for a trade. But he also said he loves his All-Star point guard like a son and is counting on him to make the franchise successful.

"Here we are trying to fill the arena... and you make a dumb statement like that," Shinn said, recalling a phone conversation he had with Davis shortly after the trade comments.

Davis said he had no regrets about expressing his opinion that the Hornets did too little to adjust to their move to the Western Conference and a new division that in-

cludes San Antonio, Dallas, Houston and Memphis.

Carter said he plans to play hard for the Raptors, even though he still wants out of Toronto.

"It's stupid for me to come up here, and just because I want a trade I'm going to moan and pout. That's dumb," Carter said.

Carter asked during the summer to be traded but the Raptors are hoping the All-Star guard changes his mind.

"I have a job to do. I'm coming here to play and win for whatever it says on my jersey," said Carter, who will earn \$12 million this season.

Contradicting himself at times, Kidd often sounded like someone who wouldn't mind being traded but didn't want to admit it. He also wouldn't say when he expects to return from offseason surgery on his left knee, indicating he'll be cautious in his recovery.

NBA camps

"We know we're not going to win a championship this year or next year, not with the caliber of guys we have now," Kidd said. "What can I do? I'm an employee. You can be a disgruntled employee or a happy employee, and I'm choosing to be a happy employee," Kidd said.

A likely scenario would have Kidd returning sometime before the Feb. 24 trade deadline, giving other teams an opportunity to gauge whether one of the game's best point guards is still capable of playing at his usual level under a contract that will pay him \$90 million over the next five years.

New Jersey will use Travis Best, Jacque Vaughn and Zoran Planinic at point guard until Kidd is ready to return. Optimism for the upcoming season was in short supply at media day for a team that made it to the NBA Finals in 2002 and 2003 before losing to the eventual champion Detroit Pistons in the second round of the playoffs last season.

The Nets changed ownership groups during the summer, and incoming boss Bruce Ratner was behind the cost-cutting moves that sent Martin to the Denver Nuggets for three first-round draft picks, and Kittles to the Los Angeles Clippers for a second-round pick.

Milwaukee Bucks point guard T.J. Ford isn't fully recovered from spinal surgery and will miss training camp.

Ford was leading rookies in assists in the NBA's summer league on Feb. 24 when he landed on his tailbone. He missed the rest of the season and underwent surgery in May.

Gary Payton, the veteran guard the Boston Celtics acquired in an offseason trade with the Los Angeles Lakers, reported to training camp on Monday.

Payton, 36, had said he didn't want to play in Boston or move his family from the West Coast. He missed an Aug. 13 deadline for his physical.

Pippen officially retires

The Associated Press

DEERFIELD, Ill. — Scottie Pippen announced his retirement from the Chicago Bulls, the team he and Michael Jordan led to six NBA titles in the 1990s.

"This was a very difficult decision for me to retire from

NBA briefs

playing a game that has been such a great part of my life," Pippen

said in a statement released Tuesday by the Bulls. "My family and I would like to thank the fans and the entire Chicago Bulls organization."

Pippen, 39, voted one of the NBA's 50 greatest players in 1996 in a poll commemorating the league's 50th anniversary, was known for his all-around play — especially his defenses against some of the league's best scorers.

"His contributions to this franchise during his tenure here have been immense," said Bulls chairman Jerry Reinsdorf. "As an organization, we thank him for everything."

Pippen was brought back to Chicago last season to give a young Bulls team leadership and experience, but he had knee surgery in December and played in only 23 games as the Bulls' sixth man. It was the first time in his career the seven-time All-Star had missed the playoffs.

After his championship years with the Bulls, Pippen was traded to Houston in 1999 after the lockout, played one season with the Rockets and then spent four years in Portland. He signed a two-year, \$10 million deal to return to Chicago and averaged 5.9 points.

"Scottie Pippen is the epitome of a true professional. He's a great teammate and a winner who is one of the best to ever wear a Bulls uniform," said John Paxson, the team's executive vice president of basketball operations, who played with Pippen in Chicago.

Griffin says he will sign with Timberwolves

HOUSTON — Former Houston Rockets and New Jersey Nets forward Eddie Griffin says his next team will be the Minnesota Timberwolves. "I've got to make this work," the troubled player told Houston television station KRIV on Monday before catching a flight to Minneapolis. "They are a good team and the best fit out there."

Griffin, the seventh pick overall in the 2001 NBA Draft, missed the entire 2003-04 season because of ongoing legal battles and substance abuse issues. He has been working with former NBA coach John Lucas, who overcame his own substance abuse issues.

Bryant lawyers want accuser identified for civil case

The Associated Press

DENVER — Attorneys for Kobe Bryant urged a federal judge on Monday to lift the anonymity of the woman accusing the Los Angeles Lakers star of rape, saying she should not be able to bring a "false accusation" in her civil lawsuit without being identified.

"The plaintiff's desire to have it be anonymous — preserving her anonymity while exposing the intimate details of her sexual encounter with Mr. Bryant and requiring him to bear alone the burden of constant public scrutiny" suggests that her lawsuit is more about putting pressure on the basketball star than anything else, the attorneys wrote.

Prosecutors dropped a felony

sexual assault charge against Bryant last month after the woman, now 20, refused to participate in the trial. Her pending civil lawsuit in federal court in Denver seeks unspecified damages for pain and suffering since the alleged attack at a Vail-area resort last summer.

Her attorneys want her anonymity protected.

The filing came on the same day Bryant, 26, prepared for training camp with the rest of the Lakers in California. He did not discuss the case or an allegation he told investigators that former teammate Shaquille O'Neal paid up to \$1 million in hush money to various women to keep quiet about similar situations.

There have been few public

court filings in the civil case, which was filed in August and is now before U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch. But on Monday, the defense confirmed Bryant has again hired attorneys including Pamela Mackey, who was behind some of the blistering court filings and arguments in the criminal case.

It was Mackey who repeatedly named the woman in open court last year, bringing an admissionism from the pretrial hearing. In the latest filing, the defense said the woman has no legitimate claim to push her civil lawsuit anonymously and there was no point because her name has been posted on the Internet and was mistakenly published by courthouse staff during the criminal proceeding.

Defense of Falcons' surprising rise

Jaguars, Giants, Jets also enjoying startling success through Week 4

BY DAVE GOLDBERG
The Associated Press

The Atlanta Falcons were 5-11 last season and allowed 452 points, most in the NFL. They're allowed 49 in four games this year, the reason they're 4-0. Yes, Michael Vick's return to health after last year's broken right leg obviously helps, but

"People understand that Mike is a great player," Warrick Dunn said after the Falcons' 27-10 win Sunday at NFC champion Carolina. "He's the quarterback. He's going to get all the attention. But it takes a team to win a football game."

These days, there are always surprises. After four weeks, the pleasant ones are the Falcons, Giants, Jaguars and Jets. The Packers, Titans, Bucs and Chiefs are the unpleasant ones.

And the Redskins are just as dismal under Joe Gibbs as under Steve Spurrier and Marty Schottenheimer, the other big-name coaches brought to Washington by Dan "The Fan" Snyder.

Atlanta (4-0)

Patrick Kerney has seven sacks; he had 6½ of last season.

That's a measure of the defense coach Jim Mora installed. Yes, the Falcons made the playoffs two years ago, then plummeted when Vick missed the first 11 games last season, but the defense always was a weak link.

Vick has rushed for 222 yards, second on the team to Warrick Dunn's 299.

New York Giants (3-1)
A playoff team two years ago, they were done in last season by a horrible offensive line, injuries and attitude — the team quit in the second half of the season. That's why right disciplinarian Tom Coughlin was hired to replace Jim Fassel.

The offensive line is improved, and Kurt Warner, supposedly a stopgap while Eli Manning learns how to play in the NFL, has been outstanding. But they're winning because they lead the league with a plus-10 turnover margin a year after tying for last at minus-16.

Tiki Barber, whose 35 fumbles (17 lost) in the past four years were most in the league, has yet to drop the ball and leads the NFC with 455 yards rushing.

Jacksonville (3-1)

The Jaguars played the Colts even until the final minutes Sunday and controlled Peyton Manning's biggest failing is at wide receiver, where Jimmy Smith is too old and Troy Edwards very average.

Their best hope is second-year QB Byron Leftwich, continuing to improve along with No. 1 pick Reggie Williams, who has just seven catches in four games.

The defense can't be faulted for allowing 24 points against the NFL's top offense. Manning's 220 yards passing were 79 below his average entering the game.

New York Jets (3-0)

Chad Pennington is healthy, and usually slow-starting Curtis Martin is off to his best start after getting more work in pre-

season. The defense gave up points and yards to Cincinnati and San Diego, but the added speed, especially at linebacker with Victor Hobson and Jonathan Vilma, made for an upgrade.

Just as the Giants are unlikely to really challenge the Eagles in the NFC East, the Jets probably won't get by New England in the AFC East. But they're a solid wild-card choice.

Green Bay (1-3)

After barely missing last year's NFL title game, then beating Carolina in Week 1, the Packers looked like a serious contender.

But losses to the Bears and Giants at home hurt.

Sunday's loss to the Giants demonstrated the effect of injuries to Grady Jackson, the 350-pound run-stopper in the middle, and center Mike Flanagan. New York ran for 245 yards through the undersized defensive line, and Brett Favre's concussion came on a hit by William Joseph, who plays over center.

Tennessee (1-3)

The Titans might be in a salary-cap-caused down period — Jevon Kearse, Robaire Smith and Justin McCareins left or were traded in the offseason.

It's not wise to write off the Titans. They were 1-4 in 2002 and made it to the AFC title game by winning 10 of 11. The difference this year is that the AFC South might be the strongest division.

Tampa Bay (0-4)

Did Jon Gruden deconstruct a Super Bowl winner? Gruden won a title two sea-

sons ago with a team assembled primarily by Rich McKay. But he ran off McKay, who landed in Atlanta in time to hire Mora.

The Bucs began the season with seven wins on offense 30 or older. Two older guys Gruden let go, John Lynch and Warren Sapp, were key defensive leaders.

Kansas City (1-3)

The defense was bad last year and isn't any better. But the offense has regressed — it went into Monday night's game in Baltimore averaging 20 points, 10 fewer than last season. The receivers are average, and returner Dante Hall has been contained.

Washington (1-3)

The Redskins were ecstatic when they beat Tampa Bay in the opener. It turns out the Bucs are bad — and the Redskins are not much better.

Snyder's decision to hire Joe Gibbs, 12 years removed from football, hasn't worked any better than his hirings of Spurrier and Schottenheimer. The only time the team has been to the playoffs since Snyder bought it was in 1999 under Norv Turner.

The rust on Gibbs has been evident. The Skins ran out of badly needed timeouts in losses to Dallas and Cleveland. He also hasn't been getting the material. Snyder spent a lot on aging players (Mark Brunell and Shawn Springs) or ordinary ones (Cornelius Griffin).

And he gave up Champ Bailey rather than pay him, getting Clinton Portis, who ran 64 yards for a touchdown on his first carry as a Redskin, but hasn't gone over 100 yards in a game since then.

Broncos making up for struggling offense

BY EDDIE PILLIS
The Associated Press

DENVER — Nobody said this was going to be easy. Or pretty. Or very much fun to watch.

Still, the Denver Broncos found themselves alone in first place in the AFC West on Monday, thanks to a defense that keeps people out of the end zone and an offense that has traded in elite for grit, at least for the time being.

"You do what you need to do to win," coach Mike Shanahan said this day after Denver's 16-13 victory over Tampa Bay.

The defense-first displays Denver has put on the past three weeks are something of a change for a franchise that made five Super Bowls between 1986-97 on the strength of John Elway's arm, and, later, a big-play running game led by Terrell Davis.

The 2004 team, at least so far, is more reminiscent of the 1977 Super Bowl team, the one that featured the Orange Crush defense with guys such as Randy Gradishar and Lyle Alzado, who made a habit of holding Denver's 30-so-of offense in games.

"Sometimes you just get down in the dirt and pull one out," cornerback Champ Bailey said Sunday in the press box. "That's how it has to be sometimes."

That the Broncos are winning with defense shouldn't come as a surprise, considering Shanahan's focus in the offseason. He traded

his top running back, Clinton Portis, for a top cornerback, Bailey.

Shanahan also used a first-round draft pick on linebacker C.J. Williams, who immediately cranked the starting lineup. He brought in free agents John Lynch and Rayleigh Johnson and just two weeks ago traded an undisclosed draft pick for veteran defensive tackle Eli Johnson (eight sacks last year), who played for the first time Sunday.

So far, the statistics are showing that the moves were worth it.

Through four games, the Broncos lead the AFC in yards allowed, and lead the league in first downs allowed per game and third-down conversion percentage allowed. Another impressive number: The Broncos have given up only three points in the fourth quarter this year, tied for the league best with Seattle, which has played one fewer game.

Of course, it's easier to keep opponents at bay when they don't have the ball. On Sunday, the Broncos held the ball for 7:26 of the final 7:26 during an impressive fourth-quarter drive that didn't produce points. The Broncos held the ball for a total of 13:20 in the fourth quarter.

"We've had a few like that over the years," Shanahan said. "Any time you get the ball with seven-plus minutes left and give it back with 3 seconds left, you feel like you did what you needed to do to win the game."

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NFL scoreboard

American Conference

| | East | West | South | North | West |
|--------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|
| New England | 3 | 0 | 1,000 | 81 | 53 |
| N.Y. Jets | 3 | 0 | 1,000 | 82 | 61 |
| Buffalo | 0 | 1 | 0 | 750 | 37 |
| Miami | 0 | 1 | 0 | 750 | 32 |
| Indianapolis | 0 | 1 | 750 | 124 | 92 |
| Jacksonville | 3 | 1 | 750 | 52 | 52 |
| Houston | 2 | 2 | 500 | 90 | 91 |
| Tennessee | 1 | 0 | 250 | 63 | 91 |
| Pittsburgh | 2 | 1 | 750 | 78 | 71 |
| Baltimore | 2 | 2 | 500 | 80 | 69 |
| Cleveland | 2 | 2 | 500 | 59 | 62 |
| Cincinnati | 1 | 3 | 250 | 66 | 95 |
| Denver | 3 | 1 | 750 | 79 | 57 |
| San Diego | 2 | 0 | 500 | 106 | 94 |
| Kansas City | 1 | 3 | 250 | 89 | 110 |

National Conference

| | East | West | South | North | West |
|---------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|
| Philadelphia | 4 | 0 | 1,000 | 107 | 55 |
| N.Y. Giants | 3 | 0 | 1,000 | 78 | 62 |
| Dallas | 2 | 1 | 667 | 57 | 65 |
| Washington | 0 | 0 | 250 | 61 | 68 |
| Atlanta | 4 | 0 | 1,000 | 88 | 49 |
| New Orleans | 2 | 0 | 500 | 73 | 107 |
| Carolina | 1 | 2 | 333 | 52 | 68 |
| Tampa Bay | 1 | 2 | 500 | 48 | 72 |
| Detroit | 2 | 0 | 667 | 61 | 62 |
| Minnesota | 2 | 1 | 667 | 78 | 66 |
| Chicago | 2 | 0 | 500 | 68 | 76 |
| Green Bay | 1 | 3 | 250 | 72 | 94 |
| Seattle | 2 | 0 | 1,000 | 65 | 13 |
| St. Louis | 2 | 0 | 500 | 83 | 86 |
| Arizona | 2 | 0 | 250 | 59 | 81 |
| San Francisco | 0 | 4 | 0 | 750 | 60 |

Sunday's games

| |
|---|
| Houston 30, Oakland 17 |
| Philadelphia 19, Chicago 9 |
| N.Y. Giants 14, Green Bay 7 |
| Pittsburgh 28, Cincinnati 17 |
| New England 31, Buffalo 17 |
| Indianapolis 24, Jacksonville 17 |
| Cleveland 12, Washington 13 |
| Arizona 24, New Orleans 10 |
| Atlanta 27, Carolina 10 |
| N.Y. Jets 17, Miami 9 |
| San Diego 36, Tennessee 17 |
| Denver 16, Tampa Bay 13 |
| St. Louis 24, San Francisco 14 |
| Open: Seattle, Dallas, Detroit, Minnesota |

Monday's game

| |
|--|
| Kansas City 27, Baltimore 24 |
| Sunday, Oct. 10 |
| Detroit at Carolina |
| N.Y. Giants at Dallas |
| Oakland at Indianapolis |
| Minnesota at Houston |
| Miami at New Orleans |
| Cleveland at Pittsburgh |
| Tampa Bay at Seattle |
| Buffalo at N.Y. Jets |
| Jacksonville at San Diego |
| St. Louis at Seattle |
| Arizona at San Francisco |
| Carolina at Denver |
| Baltimore at Washington |
| Open: Cincinnati, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Chicago |

Monday, Oct. 11

Tennessee at Green Bay

NFL calendar

| |
|--|
| Oct. 19 — Trading deadline |
| Jan. 2 — Regular season ends |
| Jan. 8 — Wild-card playoffs |
| Jan. 15 — Divisional playoffs |
| Jan. 22 — Conference Championships |
| Feb. 6 — Super Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla. |
| Feb. 8 — Pro Bowl, Honolulu |
| Feb. 23-March 1 — Scouting combine, Indianapolis |
| April 23-24 — NFL Draft, New York |

Chiefs dominate Ravens, end skid

BY DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Now that they've got that elusive first win out of the way, the Kansas City Chiefs should find life quite a bit more tolerable.

After going through the torment and ridicule associated with being 0-3, the Chiefs righted themselves Monday night by beating the Baltimore Ravens 27-24.

"This doesn't get us into the playoffs, but it gets us going," coach Dick Vermeil said. "To come in here and win when you've already lost three and people have written you off and took a lot of sarcastic shots at us, to do what they did, I respect them and love them for it."

The Chiefs dominated a highly touted Baltimore defense with a formidable display of ball control. Priest Holmes ran for 125 yards and two touchdowns, and Kansas City nearly doubled the Ravens' numbers in yardage and time of possession.

"To think that we would be able to control the clock like we did, that's incredible," said quarterback Trent Green, who went 21-for-31 for 223 yards and a touchdown.

By holding the ball for 39 minutes, 43 seconds, the Chiefs effectively kept Baltimore running back Jamal Lewis off the field.

Lewis finished with 73 yards on only 15 carries.

"If you're the Kansas City Chiefs, what would you do? You'd keep our offense off the field so we don't run it down their throats," Lewis said.

After going 13-3 a year ago, the Chiefs were off to their worst start since 1980. Now they can attempt to build on their first win since Dec. 28.

"We had to come in here and earn respect, and I think we did," defensive tackle Lionel Dalton said.

Kansas City finished with a 398-207 advantage in total net yards. Were it not for a trick play that resulted in a touchdown pass and a 58-yard punt return for a



Chiefs running back Priest Holmes leaps into the end zone for a touchdown in the second quarter against the Ravens on Monday night.

score by rookie B.J. Sams, Baltimore (2-2) wouldn't have even been close.

"It's very disappointing to not play as physical as we're capable of," Ravens coach Brian Billick said. "They were more physical in every facet of it, which is something unique for us. We are not going to win too many games when we're not playing our game, if they out-physical us."

Through three quarters, Kansas City had 22 first downs and limited the Ravens to just four. A 1-yard touchdown run by Holmes on the first play of the fourth quarter put the Chiefs up 27-17, and that proved to be enough to end the Ravens' seven-game home winning streak.

"We were fortunate to do it in Raven-esque fashion," Chiefs defensive end Eric Hicks said. "People were been talking and putting us down, but we're making a turnaround."

Holmes, who played for Baltimore from 1997-00, became the first player in 30 years to run for 100 yards against the Ravens. He carried 13 times, 22 in the first half.

Baltimore's last loss at home was last year to the Chiefs by a 17-10 score. On Monday night, Kansas City had 17 points by halftime.

"They came out, had a nice rhythm and made plays," Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis said.

After Baltimore closed to 27-24

on Jamal Lewis' 1-yard touchdown run with 9:34 to go, the Chiefs methodically moved downfield in seven plays before a punt left the Ravens at their own 14 with 5:50 left in the third.

Baltimore went nowhere, but got the ball back on its own 27 with 2:33 remaining. The Ravens advanced to their own 40 before a fourth-down pass slipped off the fingers of wide receiver Kevin Johnson.

Ravens quarterback Kyle Boller went 10-for-17 for 154 yards. His lone touchdown pass came after Jamal Lewis tossed him a lateral, and Boller hit Randy Hynes in stride for a 57-yard first-half score.

"We have to hit those third-down passes and run the ball," Boller said. "It's our job to give our defense a rest. We have to have long drives to do that."

Baltimore did not have a drive that lasted more than nine plays. "We will have days like this," Ray Lewis said. "We need to move on and get better."

Chiefs 27, Ravens 24

| Kansas City | Baltimore | 10 | 7 | 3 | 7-27 |
|-------------|-----------|----|---|---|-------------|
| | | | | | 3 14 0 7-24 |

First Quarter
Bal—FG Stover 50, 1:09.
KC—B.J. Sams 1 pass from T. Green (Tynes kick), 6:13.

Second Quarter
Bal—Hynes 57 pass from Boller (Stover kick), 1:50.
KC—Holmes 4 run (Tynes kick), 3:42.
Bal—Sams 58 punt (Stover kick), 4:18-47.

Third Quarter
KC—FG Tynes 28, 8:28.
Fourth Quarter
KC—Holmes 1 run (Stover kick), 9:14.
A—68-67.

| | KC | Bal |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 25 | 13 |
| Total Net Yards | 398 | 207 |
| Rush-Yards | 46-378 | 20-280 |
| Passing | 220 | 127 |
| Punt Returns | 0-0 | 2-67 |
| Kickoff Returns | 2-44 | 6-183 |
| Interceptions | 0-0 | 1-8 |
| Comp-Att-Int | 21-31-0 | 10-17-9 |
| Sacked-Yards Lost | 1-3 | 4-27 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 5-6-2 | 5-8-4 |
| Penalties-Yards | 6-0 | 1-0 |
| Time of Possession | 39:43 | 26:17 |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—Kansas City: Holmes 12, Blaylock 6, 28; Green 5-17, Morton 1-4, Richardson 1-4. Baltimore: Sams 1 pass for 15-73, Boller 3-2, Taylor 1-4, Johnson 1-0.

Baltimore: Boller 10-17-154.
Rushing—Kansas City: Morton 5-64, Green 5-60, Gonzalez 4-43, Dunn 3-23, Hall 2-24, Richardson 1-10, Johnson 1-3, Sams 3-28, Holmes 2-68, Johnson 2-28, Taylor 2-8, Moore 1-11.



Top Scores for Week 4

| | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|
| 186 | Best Guess | Spangdahlem |
| 186 | yankees#1 | 127TH MP CO |
| 180 | Paco's Pirates | ARMSTRONG BARRACKS |
| 178 | gnkk | 77th maint. |
| 178 | coupe | MAG-12 |
| 176 | STEELFROGWOOD | Menwith Hill, U.K. |
| 174 | boxsong | EUSA Band |
| 174 | Saxman | Campbell Bks |
| 174 | Chiribey | HARVEY BKS |
| 174 | NotForLong | |



Best Overall Scores

| | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------------|
| 764 | Chickybowwow | 726 AMS |
| 758 | glants#1 | hbc 2/37 ar |
| 722 | Jaguar One | DoDD5 |
| 718 | STEELFROGWOOD | MAG-12 |
| 716 | Joe Corleon | Misawa |
| 716 | Black Knights | Ramstein AB |
| 710 | supermedic 27 | Leadward Barracks |
| 708 | NEOBIT | USFJ |
| 706 | DR DOOM | Heidelberg |
| 704 | Dick | Camp Zama |

See websites for official game rules.

Check this space every Thursday during the entire NFL season for the weeks Top Scores and Best Overall Scores during the NFL Challenge.

Baltimore awaits verdict on J. Lewis

With guilty plea in federal drug case, Pro Bowl RB faces likely suspension

By DAVID GINSBURG

The Associated Press

OWING MILLIS, Md. — The Baltimore Ravens expect Jamal Lewis to play Sunday night against the Washington Redskins. However, they're already preparing for the possibility an NFL suspension would take away their star running back for up to four games.

Lewis probably will be suspended, and perhaps fined, by the NFL if he pleads guilty Thursday to drug charges in Atlanta, as expected.

"A drug-related violation is grounds for discipline from the league," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Tuesday.

The Ravens figure to hear from the league about a disciplinary measure during their bye week, which begins after the Washington game.

"I don't know, but I would guess there might be some resolution during the bye week," Ravens coach Brian Billick said. "I would certainly think it. And once we have that resolution, then we can plan with a little more ease."

Under the deal being considered, Lewis would plead guilty to using a cell phone in violation of federal law and serve a sentence of six months after the 2005 season. Once the plea is on the

record, NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue can move ahead with his review of the case.

"They will set the parameters for how we go forward, and under what conditions legally," Billick said, referring to the legal system. "The next part of the process is obviously what the league wants to do."

Lewis will miss practice Thursday while in Atlanta federal court, but Billick intends to have him back for practice on Friday and in the backfield Sunday night when Baltimore (2-2) tries to bounce back from Monday's 27-24 loss to the Kansas City Chiefs.

"I'm comfortable that he'll have enough time to be ready for Sunday's game," Billick said. "It's our understanding that it's very unlikely that there will be any judgment with regards to what the league chooses to do that would impact the game." Beyond that, Billick doesn't think anything has changed from how he originally planned to deal with these circumstances.

The Ravens figured they would lose Lewis during his trial, which was scheduled to begin Nov. 1. Now, they anticipate losing him for up to four weeks, beginning with the Oct. 24 home game against the Buffalo Bills.

Regardless of the length of the suspension, Billick will summon



An aide to the presiding judge said Tuesday that Jamal Lewis, above, has agreed to plead guilty in a federal drug conspiracy case.

backups Chester Taylor and Musa Smith to run in Lewis' place. Taylor has 121 yards rushing on 21 carries this season. Smith has not run the ball, but has seen extensive action on special teams.

"The good thing is that both are actively involved," Billick said. "The Ravens remain steadfast in support of Lewis, their most prolific offensive star and a soft-spoken individual who last season ran for 2,066 yards — the second-highest season total in NFL history."

"I would suggest that you all wait and see what the circumstances are before you rush to judgment, because there are some particular circumstances which you'll see why we hold firm to our belief in Jamal," Billick said.

This was a 20-year-old, a junior in college four years ago, that had a serious lapse in judgment," said Billick, adding the lapse was not to the degree that people believe.

Now, four years later, Lewis has managed to keep his attention on football despite legal problems that could have landed him a stiff prison sentence.

opening drive in Buffalo's 31-17 loss to New England on Sunday.

Vikings RB Smith to begin four-game suspension

MINNEAPOLIS —

Ontario Smith, a key part of the Minnesota Vikings' offense, will miss the next four games serving a suspension for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

The league told Smith this summer he tested positive for marijuana, and he already was in the league's substance-abuse program for at least one previous positive test. His suspension had been on hold pending an appeal.

Bengals DE Smith arrested, charged with drunken driving

DAYTON, Ohio —

Cincinnati Bengals defensive end Justin Smith was arrested early Tuesday and charged with drunken driving after he failed a breath test, the Montgomery County sheriff's department said.

Smith was stopped because his truck was weaving. He told police he had five beers, the arresting officer said, and was trying to walk during a sobriety test.

He had a blood-alcohol level of 0.152, the report said, nearly double the state's legal limit.

St. Mary's offers to host Far East wrestling tourney

International schools had been ineligible

By DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

St. Mary's International School in Tokyo has offered to host the 2005 Far East High School Wrestling Tournament in February so that international schools athletes would be able to participate.

St. Mary's athletic director Dave Ducharme made the offer in an e-mail sent last week to Don Hobbs, Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Pacific's Far East Activities Council chair.

Two weeks ago, DODDS-Pacific announced that future Far East tournaments would include cross country and tennis would include only DODDS teams, citing budget, facilities and billing concerns as the reasons.

In the letter to international schools announcing DODDS-Pacific's decision, Hobbs was "if an international school is willing to host and invite all DODDS-Pacific schools to a Far East tournament in tennis, cross country or wrestling, we would seriously consider participating."

"We took that line, and we just decided to let's give it a try," Ducharme said Tuesday. "This ruling is for our kids' chance for them. A chance to fight for all international schools for continued access to these historic tournaments."

Hobbs said on Tuesday that he had seen Ducharme's proposal but had not had a chance to discuss it with DODDS-Pacific director Dr. Nancy Bessell. He said he hoped to make a decision "by the end of the week."

DODDS-Pacific's decision to limit the Far East tennis, cross country and wrestling tourna-

ment fields "came out of nowhere" in the middle of the fall tennis and cross country seasons, Ducharme said.

"When you get thrown a curve like that, at the start of the year, in the middle of the tennis and cross-country season, you look to find a way," he said.

To lose the chance to take part in a Far East tournament would be a "big blow" to all international schools, Ducharme said.

"We're looking for closure for our kids, and Far East is a good way to provide that," he said. "Bottom line, this is solely for the kids."

It's too late, Ducharme said, to make similar offers to host the Far East cross country and tennis tournaments. Cross country is scheduled for Nov. 8-10 at Yokota Air Base, Japan, and tennis is Nov. 10-12 at Kadana Air Base, Okinawa.

This year's DODDS-Pacific Far East wrestling tournament is scheduled for Feb. 21-23 at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

St. Mary's gym can accommodate just two wrestling mats, so Ducharme said he would look into renting a gym in Tokyo once he gets an answer to his proposal.

Brian Kitts of Yokota High, the Far East wrestling tournament director, said that transporting DODDS teams from a host base back and forth from a hotel would cost too much for four hours onto a full day of wrestling.

"It's great that the international schools want to be involved," he said. "But transportation would be the biggest problem."

By Dave Ornauer at e-mail:pat@strips.com

Concussed Favre likely to play

The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — The Green Bay Packers are confident quarterback Brett Favre's first concussion in nine seasons was mild and won't prevent him from starting Monday against the Tennessee Titans.

"He's fine. I may hold him back on Wednesday but he'll practice on Thursday," coach Mike Sherman said. "He has been looked at by the doctors and they feel pretty confident he's OK to go."

The status of backup Doug Pederson, however, isn't as positive. Offensive coordinator Tom Rossley said Pederson has a broken rib and "he's still hurting pretty bad today."

Without Pederson, Craig Hall would back up Favre with newcomer J.T. O'Sullivan serving as the No. 3 quarterback.

O'Sullivan was part of the deal that sent recalcitrant cornerback Mike McKenzie to the New Orleans Saints on Monday for a second-round draft choice.

Favre has started 212 straight games, counting playoffs, since becoming a starter on Sept. 13,

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by team's prognosis. (See Friday's report for complete injury report provided by the league):

Chargers: RB Frank Gore (knee) (ruptured ACL) likely (tendon) out for season.

Chargers: C Nick Hardwick (torn knee) out 2-4 weeks.

Chargers: CB Mike Rumph (broken arm) 6-12 weeks; DE Andre Carter (back) doubtful for Sunday; LB Derek Smith (ankle) out for season.

Jaguars: OT Mike Pearson (torn knee) out 2-4 weeks.

Packers: QB Doug Pederson (broken knee) out for season.

Steelers: LB Kendall Bell (sports hernia) out 2-4 weeks.

Vikings: RB Michael Bennett (torn meniscus in knee) out 2-4 weeks.

1992. It's the longest streak for a quarterback in NFL history. During that time, 175 quarterbacks have made their NFL debuts.

Bills CB Vincent out two weeks with knee injury

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Cornerback Troy Vincent will miss at least two weeks with a right knee injury, further depleting the Buffalo Bills' secondary.

Coach Dick Jaurio says on Monday said Vincent had arthroscopic surgery earlier in the day, but did not reveal the extent of the player's injury.

Vincent was hurt during the

USFJ-AFL unveils honor roll

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Wide receiver Robert Trisby and linebacker Gary Hicks, players who helped lead the Yokosuka Seahawks to their fifth straight U.S. Forces Japan-American Football League title last month, lead the list of individual award winners announced Tuesday by commissioner Kyle Rhodus.

Trisby, who caught 27 passes for 338 yards and six touchdowns, was selected league MVP while Hicks, who recorded 13 quarterback sacks, earned Defensive Player of the Year honors, as voted by league coaches.

James Coleman of Misawa rushed 180 times for a league-record 1,125 yards and was tabbed the Offensive Player of the Year. Ray Shabazz of the Atsugi White Dolphins won Coach of the Year honors.

"Both of them are fierce competitors," Seahawks coach Isaac Lee said of the 6-foot-2,

225-pound Trisby, and Hicks, who played college ball at USC Southern before joining the Naval Academy.

"He wants the ball," Lee said of Trisby. "He wants the focus to be on him."

Lee said that Trisby's height and weight pose "so many problems for defenses. Cornerbacks can't match up with him physically and linebackers can't run with him. He creates mismatches."

Lee said of Hicks: "He's too strong. He was made possible by defensive end Thomas Curry."

Shabazz, who coached winless Atsugi, might seem an odd choice as the league's top coach, but Lee said Shabazz was deserving because of the job he did "holding the team together."

Atsugi's team gets no command support, unlike Yokosuka, Misawa and Yokota, which get varied amounts of transportation, equipment and other forms of support.

HOME TEAM

A WEEKLY LOOK AT LOCAL SPORTS

Pusan siblings find their placement

Edwards set lofty goals for Far East

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

Mary and James Edwards have kept tennis in the family since they picked up rackets as seventh graders. This year they would like to keep Far East tennis medals in the family, as well.

They have experienced limited success in their careers representing tiny Pusan American School, winning occasional matches against small-schools opposition but finding it more difficult against their large-school opponents in Seoul.

This season might be different. Both have beaten the top singles seeds at Osan American, Taegu American and International Christian-School. Both have 3-0 records, the best among Department of Defense Dependents Schools players.

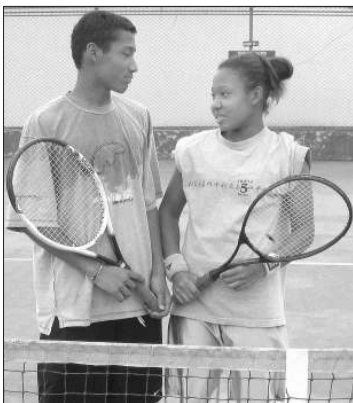
Now, James, a junior, and Mary, a senior, have even loftier goals: Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference individual championships, maybe even a Far East tournament final double next month at Kadema Air Base, Okinawa.

"That would be great," James said. "Their early-season success has surprised even their coach, Lydia Fleischer."

"It's amazing," she said. "I've seen so much improvement so far. I've never seen that in the past."

Fleischer was speaking especially about a change in both players' styles and substance, a maturing of their games that has both surprising placement over power.

"After years of trying to get James to go for accuracy as opposed to power..." Fleischer said, "I don't know what happened."



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Pusan American tennis players James Edwards, a junior, and Mary Edwards, his senior sister, have 3-0 records, the best among Department of Defense Dependents Schools players this season.

Now, she said, "He doesn't have to do a power shot to prove anything to anybody. He's purposeful."

Similarly, Mary "has always been a good hitter," Fleischer said, but is concentrating more on "placing the ball."

What do the players think? Says Mary, who attended tennis camps this summer, "I put more emphasis on speed, getting to the ball faster. I move around the court faster, chasing down every single ball... My ball placement has improved. Before, I was trying to hit the ball with a lot of force, but I learned over the summer that it's more important where I put the ball."

James echoed his sister. "I used to hit hard but not with as much control... Now, I'm trying to find spots."

He also absorbed lessons from last year's defeats against some of South Korea's toughest competitors.

"They're not hard-hitting," he said. "But they place the ball well. They don't make mistakes, they make you make the mistakes."

A brother and sister never have won singles golds in any Far East tennis tournament. But James' and Mary's improved games, coupled with DODDS-Pacific's decision last month to limit Far East tennis tournaments to DODDS teams, positioned them to do just that, Fleischer said.

But Mary and James both quickly point out that they have yet to face stronger international and DODDS opposition in Seoul.

"They have many good players," Mary said of competitors

such as Michelle Lee of Seoul Foreign, Hannah Kim of Seoul International, James has to contend with the likes of Thomas Kim of Seoul American, Joseph Shin of Seoul International and JiTae Kim of Seoul Foreign, whom James calls the "best player in Korea right now."

Lifelong residents of Pusan and Camp Hialeah — their father, J.C., a retired Army sergeant major, has worked at the Pusan Storage Facility for 18 years — Mary and James say they depend on each other for practice, honing their game, even encouragement.

"He has the power, the strength, the speed, I totally look up to him and try to make my game like his," said Mary, who practices about three hours daily.

James calls himself an "in-season" tennis player and prefers basketball, his winter sport. But he says he gets more from practicing with his sister than anything else in tennis.

"Mentally, right before the game, she helps me get ready," he said.

Even though Far East will not feature some of last year's top players, Mary and James refused to take anything for granted.

"We still have to get on the court and win," said James, who lost in the second round last year. "There will be people there who I haven't seen, who I haven't played. It will take a lot of hard work and practice."

Looming in the way of Mary's title bid is sophomore Amy Lopes of Kadema, who finished fourth last year and beat Edwards 6-1, 6-0 in the third round.

"You're going to need a strong serve. You have to be strong and dominant," Mary said of Lopes. "She hits the ball really hard and has a really awesome serve. You have to be really prepared to face her."

Said Fleischer, "I'd like to see Mary and James get up there at least into the semifinals. I think they can."

E-mail Dave Ornaauer at: ornauid@starsandstripes.osd.mil

This week's schedule Okinawa

Football Friday, Oct. 8
Kadena Islanders vs. Kadema Buccaneers, 3:30 p.m.
Kubasaki Samurai vs. Kubasaki Seaguns, 7 p.m.

Girls volleyball Friday, Oct. 8
Kubasaki at Okinawa High school to be determined, 7 p.m.
Okinawa High school to be determined, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 12
Kubasaki at Okinawa High school to be determined, 6 p.m.
Okinawa High school to be determined at Kadema, 7 p.m.

Cross country Tuesday, Oct. 12
Okinawa Christian International and Kubasaki at Kadema, 3:45 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 7
Kubasaki vs. Kadema at Robert Tennis Complex, Kadema Air Base, 3 p.m.

Japan

Football Friday, Oct. 8
Nile & Kinrick vs. Zama American at Asahi Naval Air Facility, 7 p.m.
Yokota at Robert D. Edgren, 7 p.m.

Girls volleyball Friday, Oct. 8
Nile & Kinrick and L.I. King at Matthew C. Perry, 5 p.m.
Seiden International at American School in Japan, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 9
Nile & Kinrick and L.I. King at Matthew C. Perry, 5 a.m.
Seiden International and Robert D. Edgren at Zama American, 10 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 8
Zama American, Robert D. Edgren and Nile & Kinrick, Yokota, Robert D. Edgren and Nile & Kinrick Academy at Matthew C. Perry, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 9
Zama American, L.I. King, Nile & Kinrick, Yokota, Robert D. Edgren and Nile & Kinrick Academy at Matthew C. Perry, 9 a.m.

Christian Academy in Japan and American School in Japan, Seiden International (boys), 9 a.m.
Christian Academy in Japan, Seiden International and American School in Japan at International School of the Sacred Heart (girls), 9 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 9
Robert D. Edgren, Nile & Kinrick, Yokota, Robert D. Edgren and Nile & Kinrick Academy in Japan vs. Yokota-American School in Japan, Seiden International, Tokyo, 9 a.m.

Game of the week

Football Friday, Oct. 8 (2-2)
When? 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9
Where? Kadema Air Force Base, Guam.

What? Key battle among Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam teams jockeying for home-field advantage in the first round of the playoff series being held Oct. 8-9. The second-, third- and fourth-place teams each also qualify.

Notes? It might be the most important game of the season for the Panthers, who finished in third place a season ago, and are 2-3 entering Saturday's contest after going 9-26 in the team's five first-round games. The Panthers' season minutes away from being 3-1, leading 28-0 in the first round of the playoff series. The Panthers are looking to defend champion George Washington.

Player to watch? Senior back Jerry Choat. Limited Guam High's attack. He scored a pair of rushing touchdowns and returned two interceptions for touchdowns. Choat's Panthers' 26-0 win Sept. 11 over Guam's American School in Japan, earned him 102 yards for three carries and scored three times as Guam High blanketed the Southern Dolphins 28-0 last Saturday.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Terry Stephens

Football
Osan American High School, South Korea

Last week: Ran for 327 yards and four touchdowns on 13 carries as the Cougars earned their Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Korea football league record at 1-1 by shutting out Taegu American 26-0 Saturday at Kelly Field on Camp Waker.

Stephens, a senior in his first year of football, averaged 25.1 yards per carry and ran



every snap."

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for touchdowns of 96, 95, 48 and 12 yards. His rushing total is the fourth-most in Pacific high school history for one game, and also broke the Korea record of 320 set three seasons ago by Osan's Bryan Clary.

Terry is an outstanding athlete with incredible work ethic," said his coach, Tony Alvarado, adding that Stephens plans to play Division I college football or basketball. "He is a natural leader. He works hard at every practice and pushes himself to the limit on

Niki Kauzlarich

Cross country
Kadena High School, Okinawa

Last week: Won both Okinawa Athletics Council girls' individual 3.1-mile races, helping lead the Panthers to girls' and overall team victories and keeping the team unbeaten in four meets this season. The junior and defending island champion also remained unbeaten.

Kauzlarich covered the Torii Beach course in 22 minutes, 55 seconds on Monday, 25

seconds ahead of second-place finisher Beth Nielsen of Kubasaki. On Thursday, she ran the course at White Beach Naval Station in 20:22, 1:36 ahead of Crystal Sandness of Kubasaki.

"She has her goals set. She knows what she wants to do. Win a Far East title," said Coach Tom McKinney said of Kauzlarich, who takes Advanced Placement courses in chemistry and language. "She's progressing to be a leader on the team. They look to her for support and guidance."

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SPORTS



Earnhardt docked 25 points
for cursing, loses lead in
Nextel Cup standings, Page 32

Starting with a bang

St. Louis hits five homers, routs L.A. in Game 1

By R.B. FALLSTROM
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Larry Walker is back in the playoffs for the first time in nearly a decade, and he's making the most of his second shot.

In the Cardinals' playoff opener, the three-time batting champion led the hit parade. Walker homered twice and St. Louis tied a postseason record by hitting five home runs, overwhelming Odalis Perez and the Los Angeles Dodgers in an 8-3 blowout Tuesday.

"It was a lot of fun out there today to see the packed house and everybody in red," Walker said. "It was a good feeling."

Walker, acquired in August from the Rockies, made his only other postseason appearance in 1995, batting .214 for Colorado in a first-round loss to Atlanta.

Albert Pujols, Jim Edmonds and Mike Matheny, who've been part of three postseason teams in four years with St. Louis, also connected.

Add in a strong six-inning performance from Woody Williams and the Cardinals looked every bit as dominating as they did in leading the majors with 105 wins and leading the NL in runs and batting average.

The game was a slugfest, exactly what Dodgers manager Jim Tracy had hoped to avoid.

The Dodgers, who set a franchise record with 53 come-from-behind victories, fell so far behind they couldn't recover. A five-run third, all of the runs scoring with two outs, was the key.

"Two runs is nice, but getting five runs is just unbelievable," Williams said. "Especially in a game of this magnitude."

Los Angeles hasn't won a postseason game since it beat the Oakland Athletics managed by Tony La Russa in the 1988 World Series. The Dodgers were swept in the first round by Atlanta in 1996 and Cincinnati in 1995.

Game 2 of the best-of-five series is Thursday night at Busch Stadium, where the Cardinals also swept the Dodgers in a three-game series in early September. Jason Marquis pitches for St. Louis against Jeff Weaver.

"Our momentum can be recreated," Tracy said. "I just really feel like if we get adequate starting pitching, we have a good chance to hang in the series for quite a while and possibly win it."

The Cardinals climbed the NL Central on Sept. 18 before ending the season on cruise control, going 8-7 while La Russa seldom used his regular lineup. The finisher feared the team's only four-game losing streak of the year, causing some consternation among its fans.



St. Louis' Larry Walker watches his solo home run in the third inning against the Cardinals' 8-3 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers in Game 1 of the National League Division Series on Tuesday in St. Louis.

"It was harder to get there because we had the championship clinched, and we had to manufacture momentum and motivation," La Russa said. "The edge was back today because all of a sudden everything stands zero-zero."

When they again got to play a game that mattered, they pulled away quickly, hammering Perez for three homers in 2½ innings.

Matheny connected off Elmer Dessens in the fourth to make it 7-0, giving the Cardinals a chance to cruise a bit again. After the Dodgers cut the deficit to 7-2, Walker homered again off Giovanni Carrara in the seventh.

"I don't know about that so-called switch that was turned off," Matheny said. "We respect the game way too much to think

that we have enough ability to turn a switch off and then be able to play at our peak ability by turning it back on."

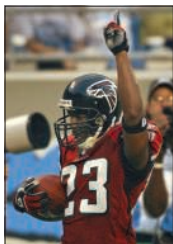
The Cardinals are one of four teams to hit five homers in a postseason game, joining the 1984 Cubs (NLCS), the 1928 Yankees (World Series) and the 1989 Athletics (World Series).

SEE BANG ON PAGE 33



Chiefs shake
winless tag,
push around
touted Ravens 'D'

Page 37



Unbeaten Falcons
No. 1 on list
of NFL surprises
after Week 4

Page 36



Pusan tandem
wants to keep
Far East titles
all in the family

Page 39



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